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The Global Newspaper Edited and Published in Paris Printed simultaneously in Paris, London, Zurich, Hong Kong, Singapore, The Hague, Marseille, New York, Rome, Tokyo, Frankfurt.

INTERNATIONAL Herald Tribune

Published With The New York Times and The Washington Post

No. 34,039 32/92

LONDON, THURSDAY, AUGUST 6, 1992

Subscription rates: U.S. \$100/yr, U.K. £40/yr, etc.

ESTABLISHED 1887

Anatomy of a Jail: Escobar Had It All

By James Brooke. ENVIGADO, Colombia — The image of Pablo Escobar Gaviria lounging on his prison water bed while coordinating shipments of tons of cocaine to the United States on his cellular telephone is not quite accurate, say lawyers who visited the trafficker in his hillside jail here.



Nelson Mandela addressing 50,000 supporters Wednesday outside Union Buildings in Pretoria, which house the office of President Frederik W. de Klerk.

Outside de Klerk's Office, Blacks Serve Notice

By David B. Ottaway. PRETORIA — Tens of thousands of African National Congress supporters marched peacefully through central Pretoria to the seat of white power at Union Buildings, where they raised the ANC flag and sang the black national anthem outside the office of President Frederik W. de Klerk.

UN May Pull Peacekeepers As Sarajevo Battles Rage

Citing Atrocity Reports, U.S. Seeks 'War Crimes' Investigation by the UN. SARAJEVO, Bosnia-Herzegovina — A spokesman for UN peacekeepers raised the possibility Wednesday of a pullout from Sarajevo as Muslims and Serbs battled in and around the capital with tanks, rockets and artillery.

Semper Fidelis: How Castro Has Managed to Endure

By Lee Hockstader. HAVANA — Eastern Europe's democratic revolution of 1989, which everywhere abolished Communist governments, was widely expected to produce a similar upheaval in Cuba. In Miami and Madrid, Cuban exiles celebrated and packed their bags, certain that President Fidel Castro's fall and their happy homecoming could only be weeks or months away.

4 Officers Face Civil-Rights Trial In L.A. Beating

LOS ANGELES — A federal grand jury has indicted four white policemen on civil rights charges for beating a black motorist they had stopped for a traffic violation. The officers' acquittal in a state court last spring led to the worst urban riots in recent U.S. history.

OLYMPIC PODIUM

Records Keep Falling. Quincy Watts of the United States set his second Olympic record in three nights, winning the 400 meters in 43.50 seconds. Marie-José Pérec of France won the women's 400-meter hurdles. In the semifinals of the men's 200, Mike Marsh of the United States set an Olympic record of 19.73 seconds.



Dave Johnson, the decathlon favorite, making his third shot put attempt Wednesday.

Pelota, Handmade: At Play in the Court of the Queen

By Ian Thomsen. BARCELONA — Slowly, patiently, Alfonso Izquierdo, the Mexican pelota player, pulled the sack off of his head. "Oh, my hands feel great," he said. "They feel fine."

Kiosk Milken Eligible for Parole in 7 Months

In the latest chapter of a saga that rocked Wall Street and America in the 1980s, Michael R. Milken will be eligible for parole next year under a sentence reduction announced Wednesday.

General News, Business/Finance, Dow Jones, Trib Index, The Dollar, Pound, Yen, FF.

Swiss Move to Join EC Unearths a Deep-Seated Ambivalence

By Robert Kroon
Special to the Herald Tribune

GENEVA — For roughly half of the 5.8 million Swiss, and even some of Switzerland's 1.1 million foreign residents, the federal government's formal application for membership in the European Community signaled the tragic end of a 700-year-old society.

The seven-man cabinet, led by René Felber, the nation's pro-European president and foreign minister, concluded that with such other neutrals as Sweden and Austria already waiting in the Brussels anteroom, Switzerland risked ending up in less-than-splendid isolation.

"The days of *Alleingang*" — going it alone — "are numbered," says Jean-Pascal Delamuraz, the economic minister. "Swiss membership in the European Community is a matter of economic survival."

He points especially to \$85 billion in two-way trade at stake. Big industry and the banking sector agree, with varying degrees of enthusiasm. In a speech to the nation on Saturday, Swiss National Day, Mr. Felber emphasized the "inevitability" of EC membership.

An increasing number of traditionalists think the government's defensive arguments have a hollow ring. They contend that armed neutrality has kept Switzer-

land peaceful and prosperous for almost two centuries and that national sovereignty is too sacred to surrender to Brussels in any event. Anti-European sentiments run deeper in the countryside than in the cities and are more prevalent among the Swiss-German majority than in French- and Italian-speaking cantons.

Overall, Switzerland's multicultural society is confronting the European momentum in a state of angst not seen since World War II. The followers of Christoph Blocher, a rightist Zurich businessman who leads a powerful opposition group called the Association for an Independent and Neutral Switzerland, have evoked the horrors that they contend would follow integration — loss of independence, sovereignty, identity, neutrality and security, along with lower wages, higher taxes and an invasion of foreign job-seekers.

They plan to challenge Bern's rush toward Brussels in a series of national referendums, culminating in next year's crucial vote on full EC membership. Under the Swiss system of "direct democracy," any decision by the federal government and parliament affecting the constitution can be overruled by the electorate.

The first test will come in September, when voters must approve a \$15 billion, 20-year project for a new rail system through the Alps, linking northwestern Europe with Italy for the sake of European integra-

tion. With 2,500 European trucks thundering through the 11-year-old St. Gotthard Tunnel every day, Bern rejected Brussels' demand to allow rigs of more than 28 tons. The new system would piggy-back trucks through the Alpine barrier, but there is no guarantee of voter approval for the biggest infrastructure project in Swiss history.

But the government is more worried about clearing the next hurdle. That will be the Dec. 6 referendum on Switzerland's entry into the European Economic Area, a kind of halfway house on the road to full EC membership that is scheduled to go into force on Jan. 1. The result will at best be timid approval, according to most recent projections. A "no" vote would doom full EC membership even before the 12 members started considering the Swiss application next year.

"Whether we join or not will be decided in Switzerland, not in Brussels," concedes Mr. Delamuraz, a fervent pro-European.

[The four Swiss coalition parties want to delay the referendum until spring to provide more time to inform the electorate. Reuters reported Wednesday from Zurich. The final decision will rest with the government, but a spokesman said that the coalition would probably make its recommendation at a meeting with the cabinet on August 24.]

Ironically, it is the very system of power by popular referendum that would be the first victim of the EC's supranational charter. The Swiss also fear a massive influx of foreign workers in a country where 16.7 percent of the population are foreigners, the highest rate in Europe. Responding to these fears, Bern has won a reprieve from the free-movement-of-labor rule until 1998.

The most nettlesome dilemma would be the agricultural sector. Farmers take up only 5 percent of the Swiss population, but in a confederation founded in 1291 by hardy Helvetic peasants, they are protected as a living national monument. Their subsidies are so enormous that dairy and beef prices are up to 40 percent higher than those in neighboring countries. These supports will have to come down, under the rules of the EC or the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, cutting farm income by half and probably driving many small independents off the land.

In terms of farm products, many Swiss families discovered the benefits of the Common Market long before the problem of EC membership arose. Fully 10 percent of Swiss households engage in cross-frontier "shopping tourism," a bonanza of \$700 million a year for German, French and Italian supermarkets in border regions.

WORLD BRIEFS

U.S. to Cut More Troops in Germany
BONN (Reuters) — The U.S. Army said Wednesday that it would withdraw 115 units from Germany, a total of 11,900 soldiers, in the next year and a spokesman said more withdrawals were to come.

The 115 units were scheduled to leave between October 1992 and September 1993, the army said in a statement from its European headquarters in Heidelberg, Germany. "Additional units will be announced as withdrawal decisions are made," a spokesman said.

The announcement brought the total number of units designated for withdrawal since September 1990 to 395 and the total number of personnel to 107,500. "These cuts are clearly because of the changing security requirements in Europe," the spokesman said.

Peacekeepers Take Over in Moldova
MOSCOW (Reuters) — Peacekeeping troops took full control of eastern Moldova on Wednesday and warning Moldovan and rebel Slavs left the battle zone, news agencies reported.

The Moldovans, who are ethnic Romanians, and the secessionist troops of the Slavs in Moldova laid a buffer zone along the breakaway Dniester region. Joint Russian-Moldovan peacekeeping units began to dismantle mines laid in the five months of war.

In another troubled area of the former Soviet Union, the Nagorno-Karabakh enclave, warfare flared anew, and two Azerbaijani soldiers and dozens of Armenians were reported killed.

U.S. Aide Assails Senate on Test Ban
WASHINGTON (AP) — A senior U.S. official labeled as "absurd" Wednesday a measure passed by the Senate this week to sharply limit U.S. nuclear weapons tests for the next three years and permanently ban all tests by 1996.

Richard Clayton, an assistant secretary in the Department of Energy, said the Senate measure too severely limited test explosions that might be needed if safety flaws were discovered in existing nuclear weapons.

Mozambique Foes Raise Peace Hope
ROME (NYT) — The president of Mozambique and the leader of a movement that has been fighting the government for 16 years met for the first time here Wednesday, shook hands and said they wanted their rancorous civil war to end, according to an authoritative account of the meeting.

A peace agreement between President Joaquim Chissano and Afonso Dhlakama of the rebel Mozambique National Resistance Movement would not only end southern Africa's last and longest-running civil war but would also raise the hopes of millions of Mozambicans facing starvation from regional drought, African diplomats said.

"Are you for peace?" Mr. Chissano was asked. "Yes, I am for peace," Mr. Dhlakama replied. Then they shook hands, said President Robert Mugabe of Zimbabwe, who attended the meeting.

Russia to Pursue Indian Rocket Deal
NEW DELHI (Reuters) — A senior Russian politician said Wednesday that Moscow would go ahead with a \$250 million accord to supply rocket technology to India despite a call from Washington to both countries to scrap it.

"I think this agreement must be fulfilled as it is in the national interest of both India and Russia," Russian Khashtslator, chairman of the Russian parliament, said. "We will not allow a third country to interfere in this."

For the Record
Bombs exploded in Paris and Nice outside offices of the state electricity company and banks early Wednesday, the Interior Ministry said. No one was wounded in the four explosions. Two more bombs were defused in Marseille outside an office and a bank.

Russia has recognized the independence of the former Yugoslav republic of Macedonia, the news agency Tanjug said Wednesday. (Reuters)

Astronauts Free Tether Preparing to Reel It In NASA Seeks to Save Satellite

The Associated Press

CAPE CANAVERAL, Florida — Atlantis' astronauts apparently cleared a snag in a tether connecting a satellite to the shuttle on Wednesday and prepared to reel in the cord in hopes of saving the scientific craft.

Instead of extending to the intended 12 1/2 miles (20 kilometers) on the fiber and wire cord, the satellite was stuck 750 feet from the shuttle, hanging directly above the open cargo bay.

NASA had been considering an emergency space walk by two astronauts on Thursday to untangle the cord, if Wednesday's efforts failed.

Flight directors, hoping to free the jammed line without a space walk, had the crew pop the clutch on a motor that guides the tether at the end of a 40-foot tower in the shuttle's cargo bay. The tether never moved.

The astronauts, working controls inside the shuttle, then slightly lowered the tower and raised it back up to try to tug the snag loose near the motor. That worked.

Until then, the seven astronauts could neither pull in the tether nor reel it out.

"We feel now, as you've probably come to the conclusion, that it's most appropriate for us to try to bring the satellite back and dock it and bring it home," Mission Control told the crew.

Still a possibility, albeit a last resort, was cutting the tether and casting the satellite adrift.

"We're keeping all of our options open," including a space walk, said Jeff Wisoff of Mission Control.

Unless Atlantis' astronauts can reel in the tether and satellite, they would be forced to cut the slender-wire-and-fiber cord and abandon the satellite before they can return to Earth.

There are two guillotine-like cutters on the tower that the crew can activate at any time by firing small explosive charges.

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration and the Italian Space Agency, which owns the satellite, have \$379 million invested in the tethered satellite system. Italy wants to get its satellite back in hopes it can fly again.

Although the crew had trouble reeling out the tether and satellite Tuesday, it wasn't until Wednesday, when the satellite was about 850 feet out, that the line got stuck.

Jeffrey Hoffman, the payload commander, planned to reel the tether part way in and then shoot it back out in an attempt to free the line. But after he reeled it in about 90 feet the tether jammed again and would not move either way.

The satellite is the key part of a planned 30-hour experiment in which up to 5,000 volts of electricity were to have been generated by dragging the full length of the tether through Earth's magnetic field.

Atlantis' crew had been struggling with satellite problems since Saturday, a day after the shuttle went into orbit.

A communications problem with a European Space Agency science satellite prevented that craft from being released on time. When it finally was freed, it got stuck in a dangerously low orbit.

Officials of the European Space Agency said they hoped to boost the \$213 million satellite into its proper orbit by the end of this week.

The complications prompted NASA to add an eighth day to the mission. The flight now is scheduled to end Saturday.



WILLING TO FORGIVE — A demonstrator in Berlin urging "freedom for Erich Honecker" on Wednesday. The former East German leader's request to be released pending his manslaughter trial is to be heard Thursday. The charges involve his shoot-to-kill orders to border guards.

Lawyers See Scapegoats In French AIDS Trial

By Barry James
International Herald Tribune

PARIS — A six-week trial of four health officials alleged to have distributed blood in 1985 they knew was infected with the AIDS virus closed Wednesday, with the defendants and many victims urging officials who held office at the time to accept responsibility.

The former head of the National Blood Transfusion Service, Michel Garretta, faces a prison sentence of up to four years and a fine of 500,000 francs (\$100,000). Three others face lesser sentences.

Lawyers said the four were scapegoats for officials who knew about the danger, who could have averted it but who did nothing.

About 1,200 hemophiliacs contracted the virus that leads to AIDS as a result of transfusions of contaminated blood products. At least 256 of them died.

Judgment in the case is expected in mid-October.

Throughout the trial, the small courtroom was filled with AIDS victims and their families, many of them protesting angrily at what they saw as the light sentences demanded for the officials and the immunity of government ministers and their senior aides.

"Defense attorneys said the case pointed to an abiding antipathy and cynicism of government officials, whom they accuse of putting commercial interests ahead of the lives of citizens."

Dr. Garretta has admitted he signed a note in mid-1985 ordering continued distribution of tainted blood products. Prosecutors said all four of the officials knew about the danger and were in a position to have prevented it.

The blood transfusion service could have imported heat-treated products that were known to be safe, along with screening kits to test donated blood.

Instead, Dr. Garretta waited several months until France could develop its own heat-treatment.

Former Prime Minister Laurent Fabius appeared as a witness last month along with the former ministers of health and social affairs, Edmond Hervé and Georges Dufoux.

Mr. Fabius denied he had been informed and said he had taken timely action to introduce blood screening. Mr. Dufoux achieved notoriety for a statement that she was "responsible but not guilty."

Mr. Hervé, the former health minister, acknowledged that he was informed in June 1985 that the blood stocks were contaminated but that he accepted the advice of Dr. Garretta and others to continue using them until October, when the screening and heating techniques could be phased in.

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TRAVEL UPDATE

SAS flight and ground personnel ended a wildcat strike at the Stockholm airport Wednesday, a union spokesman said. The strike ended, he said, after the carrier said it would reopen talks on proposed staff cuts, which had prompted the walkout Tuesday.

Vacationers in beach wear risk being fined, the mayor of Positano, Italy, said Wednesday. The center of the southern coastal resort has been ruled off-limits to people in swimming attire or shorts. Violators can be fined 50,000 lire (\$45).

Lufthansa is lowering fares on flights from its 12 U.S. gateways to cities in Germany and elsewhere in Europe from October 1 through March 31. The special fares are not available for flights from the United States between December 17 and 24 and to the United States between January 2 and 8.

Dozens of old Indonesian aircraft are in violation of international safety regulations but are still flying because of financial problems, a flight safety research institution said Wednesday in Jakarta. It said many Indonesian aviation companies, not including the national flag carrier, Garuda, were operating the aircraft on domestic routes in Sumatra and the eastern regions of the archipelago.

Seven public telephone outlets from which tourists can make long-distance calls have been set up on major streets in Beijing, and more will be built this year.

American Airlines and Continental Airlines said Wednesday that they would match the average 30 percent cuts in trans-Atlantic fares for the autumn and winter that Delta Air Lines announced Tuesday. British Airways had already matched the cuts, and United Airlines and Trans World Airlines were studying them.

Israelis Print Hitler Writings, Lest They Forget

By Clyde Haberman
New York Times Service

JERUSALEM — For the first time since Hitler wrote "Mein Kampf" seven decades ago, the book has been published in the language and in the country of the people he tried to exterminate.

The existence of a Hebrew version of "Mein Kampf" is so sensitive in Israel that its publication was done quietly.

There is certainly no chance of its ever becoming a best seller, not with only 400 copies printed by Akadamon, a publisher of academic texts that emphasizes the book is intended for students of German history, not for the general public.

The Hebrew version is not a complete text of "Mein Kampf" — "My Struggle" — which was written by Hitler in a Bavarian prison in 1923 and 1924, a decade before he gained power.

It is an annotated manuscript of 130 pages, about a fifth of the original, and focuses on chapters offering Hitler's racial views and criticisms of the Weimar Republic.

Like most of Akadamon's books, it has a plain black-and-white cover — no photographs of Hitler and no swastikas that might smack of sensationalism to sell copies.

"It's targeted for people who are interested in learning about National Socialism in a course of study," said Moshe Zimmermann, a professor of German history at Hebrew University in Jerusalem.

"But some people felt it should not be translated into Hebrew. If you even mention the idea of translating it, some suspect you of making National Socialist propaganda."

It took Dan Yaron, a Viennese-born Israeli who did the translation, more than three years and a dozen rejections to find a publishing house willing to take on the project. His experience underscores the enormous sensitivity here to certain Holocaust symbols and themes — "red lines," as they are called, which are crossed at peril.

"Mein Kampf" is one such red line. Although the Holocaust is an obligatory subject in Israeli schools, the tract in which Hitler laid out his anti-Semitic ideology has been off-limits. Until now only scattered excerpts have appeared in Hebrew books on the Nazi era.

"We would not want to publish this as a book," said Racheli Edelman, publisher of Schocken Books, whose family fled Nazi Germany.

"We have a long list of books about the Holocaust that we do publish. But we suffered too much as a result of this man and his book, and should not perpetuate his ideas."

One of the better-known taboos is the music of Richard Wagner, who died in 1883 but became a symbol of Nazism because he was a virulent anti-Semite greatly admired by Hitler.

When the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra, breaking a ban of five decades, scheduled a Wagner program last December, the news unleashed such a storm of protest from death-camp survivors that the orchestra backed down.

There were protests last weekend when an Israeli rock group, Duran Duran, said it had been invited to Poland and hoped to play at the Auschwitz death camp as a symbol of Jewish survival.

Its lead singer, Uri Dromer, said in a radio interview that one number he especially wanted to perform was "Zyklon B," named for the gas that Nazis poured into underground chambers at Auschwitz to kill Jews.

Perhaps not surprisingly, an Auschwitz survivor interviewed on the same program, Aryeh Ben-Tov, found the whole idea "a desecration to the memory of the victims."

As for "Mein Kampf," there is "a need for it from an academic point of view," said Shalmi Bar-mor, education director at Yad Vashem, the Jerusalem memorial to the Holocaust.

But Yad Vashem, which has its own publishing branch, was among those refusing to translate the Hitler text because, Mr. Bar-mor said, "it's still emotionally difficult."

Mr. Yaron, 72, who had made a mission of getting "Mein Kampf" published, understands the emotions. He fled the Nazis in 1938, entering British-ruled Palestine illegally. His parents later died in German camps.

"It's a sad episode but a historical fact, and the younger generations must know what really happened and why," he said. "You have to know who your enemy is and what he is."

IMF Approves \$1 Billion Loan To Aid Russia

WASHINGTON — The International Monetary Fund said Wednesday that it had approved a \$1.04 billion loan for Russia to help Moscow modernize and open up its battered economy.

The loan, the first installment in what could be a \$4 billion package, will pave the way for further Western assistance to Russia, including World Bank credits and a rescheduling of the country's foreign debts.

The United States and its industrialized allies have pledged to provide Russia with \$24 billion this year, but much of that assistance is contingent upon IMF approval of Moscow's economic reform program.

President Boris N. Yeltsin has pledged to press ahead with the overhaul, but is faced with growing domestic opposition to the measures, which have sent prices rocketing and which threaten to sharply push up unemployment.

Mr. Yeltsin has already yielded ground, ceding cabinet positions to conservatives.

Ex-Official Gets 4 Years In Chinese 'Secrets' Trial

By Sheryl WuDunn
New York Times Service

BEIJING — A Chinese court sentenced Gao Shan, a 36-year-old government official and advocate of political restructuring, to four years in prison on Wednesday for leaking state secrets during the Tiananmen democracy movement.

Mr. Gao's trial was closed to the public, and apparently to family members as well, because it involved state secrets.

But a spokesman for the Beijing Intermediate People's Court confirmed that Mr. Gao had received the four-year sentence.

He presumably will be given credit for time served, meaning that he should be released next year.

Mr. Gao's case was closely linked with that of his former boss, Bao Tong, a former Politburo political secretary who was convicted last month, also for leaking state secrets.

Mr. Bao was head of an institute for political restructuring, and Mr. Gao was two levels beneath him at the institute.

Mr. Gao and Mr. Bao were among the last to be held without trial in connection with the Tiananmen democracy movement.

The only one still known to be awaiting trial is Wu Jianxing, a poet and theorist who worked as a researcher for the Central Committee General Office.

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Tokyo Rules Out Apology To China by Emperor

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

TOKYO — Emperor Akihito will not apologize for Japan's 1937 invasion and wartime occupation of China when he makes a historic visit there in October, a Japanese newspaper reported Wednesday.

To appease leaders in his conservative Liberal Democratic Party, Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa decided the emperor would not be allowed to make a clear apology, the Mainichi Daily News said, citing sources close to Mr. Miyazawa.

Groups in the party have fought bitterly since spring to thwart the trip and thereby eliminate any chance of an apology.

Japan has refused to make explicit apologies to its former enemies for aggression. When touring such countries, Japanese political leaders go no further than expressing regret that the war occurred.

Last year, during a tour of Southeast Asia, Emperor Akihito merely referred to the "calamity of the unfortunate war."

But he may be under greater pressure in China. Historians estimate as many as 13 million Chinese were killed by the Japanese Army or died of famine during the occupation.

In one of the most infamous incidents of the war — known as the Rape of Nanking — Japanese soldiers went on a rampage that left as many as 300,000 civilians dead.

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Europe		Asia	
City	Temp	City	Temp
London	50-60	Tokyo	70-80
Paris	55-65	Beijing	75-85
Frankfurt	55-65	Manila	75-85
Berlin	55-65	Seoul	75-85
Amsterdam	55-65	Hong Kong	75-85
Brussels	55-65	Singapore	75-85
Geneva	55-65	Bangkok	75-85
Zurich	55-65	Colombo	75-85
Stockholm	55-65	Delhi	75-85
Copenhagen	55-65	Mumbai	75-85
Oslo	55-65	Kolkata	75-85
Stockholm	55-65	Chennai	75-85
Copenhagen	55-65	Bombay	75-85
Oslo	55-65	Hyderabad	75-85
Stockholm	55-65	Jaipur	75-85
Copenhagen	55-65	Lucknow	75-85
Oslo	55-65	Patna	75-85
Stockholm	55-65	Dispur	75-85
Copenhagen	55-65	Imphal	75-85
Oslo	55-65	Shillong	75-85
Stockholm	55-65	Itanagar	75-85
Copenhagen	55-65	Dehra Dun	75-85
Oslo	55-65	Meerut	75-85
Stockholm	55-65	Delhi	75-85
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Stockholm	55-65	Lucknow	75-85
Copenhagen	55-65	Patna	75-85
Oslo	55-65	Dispur	75-85
Stockholm	55-65	Imphal	75-85
Copenhagen	55-65	Shillong	75-85
Oslo	55-65	Itanagar	75-85
Stockholm	55-65	Dehra Dun	75-85
Copenhagen	55-65	Meerut	75-85
Oslo	55-65	Delhi	75-85
Stockholm	55-65	Jaipur	75-85
Copenhagen	55-65	Lucknow	75-85
Oslo	55-65		

CAMPAIGN '92 / SOCIAL ISSUES

'No Matter the Price,' Bush Says No on Abortion

By Bill McAllister
Washington Post Service

NEW YORK — President George Bush condemned the U.S. abortion rate as "a national tragedy" Wednesday and assured a Catholic audience here that he would not abandon his anti-abortion position even though it may cost him votes.

"Several times I have ignored the polls and acted on what I believe is fundamental principle," the president told the national convention of the Knights of Columbus, a Catholic lay organization, citing his votes of legislation that would have allowed federal funding of abortion in some cases.

"And I promise you again today that, no matter the political price — and they tell me in this year that it's enormous — I am going to do what I think is right," he said. "I will stand on my conscience and let my conscience be my guide when it comes to matters of life."

The president's pledge — in a speech on the need to restore the country's "moral fiber" — brought the audience of nearly 1,000 to feet in sympathetic applause. They had been prepped for the issue by their organization's supreme knight, Virgil Dechant, who warmly praised Mr. Bush for the votes that Mr. Dechant said "showed the courage of his convictions."

Mr. Bush used the speech to argue that "the president should set the moral tone for this nation" and that he had the best credentials for that role. "And if you are looking to

restore America's moral fiber, why buy synthetic, when you can buy real cotton?" he quipped.

As he has begun to do in recent speeches, the president sought to make light of critics of his sluggish re-election campaign and polls that show him trailing Governor Bill Clinton. On Monday, he likened himself to a U.S. Olympic swimmer who started late in her race and managed to win the gold medal.

He jokingly compared himself to Christopher Columbus, the man for whom the Catholic group is named.

"Think about it. The guy was faced with questions at home about whether his global efforts were worth a darn. Some critics wanted to cut his voyage short. He even faced the threat of mutiny," Mr. Bush said to laughter. "And yet Columbus persevered and won — not a bad analogy in my view."

Mr. Bush sounded the "trust" theme in his speech, declaring that "a central issue of this election should be: Who do you trust to renew America's moral purpose?"

He cited issues highly popular among Catholics, such as his proposal for allowing increased public aid for private schools and his opposition to distribution of condoms in public schools. Such positions were, he said, examples of his moral values.

"We didn't stand together to see courageous moral values rise in Russia, only to be ignored here at home," he said,

linking his domestic programs to international events. "We did not sacrifice so that personal responsibility could triumph in totalitarian regimes, only to become passé here in this great nation."

Abortion looms as perhaps the most contentious social issue of the campaign. Mr. Clinton supports a woman's right to choose an abortion, and Democratic leaders in Congress are searching for enough votes to send Mr. Bush legislation that would expand abortion rights following a recent Supreme Court ruling that narrowed them.

Mr. Bush made no mention during his speech of the economy, the issue that polls indicate is giving Mr. Clinton much support. The Democrat leads Mr. Bush by 25 points or more in most public opinion polls.

But he did evoke other issues on which he and the Democratic nominee differed.

On welfare, Mr. Bush suggested that Mr. Clinton favored a government-guaranteed job for every recipient, and he ridiculed such an idea.

On education, the president said he favored permitting parents to use government vouchers to finance religious or private school tuition, as a way of giving them a break on the property taxes they pay for public schools. He said Mr. Clinton favored extending school choice only to different public schools.

ELECTION NOTES

A Step Ahead for Women but Not for Bush Kin

WASHINGTON — The women's march on the U.S. Senate continues: Gloria O'Dell of Kansas and Geri Rothman-Serot of Missouri won Democratic primaries, becoming the eighth and ninth Republican incumbents who won easy victories in their own primaries — the Senate Republican leader, Bob Dole of Kansas, and Christopher S. Bond of Missouri, who is serving his first term.

The victories of Ms. O'Dell and Ms. Rothman-Serot made this year's class of women senatorial candidates nearly the largest ever. The most women to win Senate nominations in one year was 10, in 1984, according to the Center for the American Woman and Politics at Rutgers University. Several more women are running in primaries still to be held. Of the nine to win nominations so far this year, eight are Democrats. Only two of the present 100 senators are women: Barbara A. Mikulski, Democrat of Maryland, and Nancy L. Kassebaum, Republican of Kansas, daughter of Alf Landon, who ran against Franklin Delano Roosevelt in 1936.

In the Missouri primary, another candidate with a famous relative lost the Republican nomination for Congress: George Herbert Walker 3d, a brokerage executive and a cousin of President George Herbert Walker Bush, ran a distant second to James M. Talent, a state House leader. Mr. Walker had sought to play down his family connection, saying only, "I just happen to have a wonderful relative who lives in the White House." (AP, LAT)

The Republicans' All-Star Convention Lineup

WASHINGTON — Former President Gerald R. Ford will help launch President George Bush's formal re-election campaign with a speech on the last night of the Republican National Convention, according to a party spokesman. Gary Koops, another former president, Ronald Reagan, had already been drafted to open the convention on Aug. 17 in Houston.

Patrick J. Buchanan, who mounted a surprisingly strong and acerbic challenge to Mr. Bush in early Republican primaries, will get a prime-time speaking slot on the first night. Senator Phil Gramm of Texas will give the keynote address, while the Senate minority leader, Bob Dole, a 1988 Bush primary opponent, will introduce the president before his acceptance speech.

The president will not be the only Bush at center stage at the Astrodome. His wife, Barbara, is scheduled to give a prime-time address Aug. 19 on family values. Labor Secretary Lynn Martin, who openly disagrees with Mr. Bush's anti-abortion stance, will formally nominate him with a speech Aug. 16.

Other speakers will include two other 1988 Bush primary foes — the secretary of housing and urban development, Jack F. Kemp, and the television evangelist Pat Robertson — as well as the former White House chief of staff, John H. Sununu. Despite any past differences, "all of the speakers agree on the importance of re-electing George Bush and Dan Quayle," Mr. Koops said. (AP)

The Orange County Edge is in Jeopardy

NEWPORT BEACH, California — George Bush's backers in California fear that he will not carry Orange County — the heart of conservative Republicanism — by a large enough margin to offset the normally heavy Democratic pluralities in the Los Angeles and San Francisco areas. At stake is the biggest prize in the election, California's 54 electoral votes, one-fifth of the 270 electoral votes needed for election. Since 1880, no Republican has won the presidency without carrying California.

"The president is in very serious difficulty," said Allan E. Hoffenbush, a Republican political consultant in Los Angeles. "If he's in trouble in Orange County, he's in trouble, period. Bush will carry Orange County, but the question is, will he get just 52 percent? Anytime a Republican gets less than 60 percent in Orange County, he loses the state."

For now, the news is mostly bad for the president. A poll taken by The Orange County Register on July 16 and 17, just after the Democratic National Convention, found Bill Clinton, the Democratic nominee, leading Mr. Bush in the county 42 percent to 35 percent, with former backers of Ross Perot going for Mr. Clinton by nearly two to one. The poll of 403 registered voters had a margin of error of plus or minus five percentage points. A "phenomenal" 62-to-28 percent lead over Mr. Bush statewide, the largest lead ever for a presidential candidate in the 45-year history of the poll. The poll of 1,192 adults had a margin of error of three percentage points. (NYT)

Quote/Unquote

President George Bush, complaining that the press gives a distorted picture of the economy: "I don't think that's right when the American people think and are told we are in a recession when we are not. Now some areas are. I've got to be careful because I'll get some phone calls from California saying you know, the president's disconnected. He doesn't understand. Or New Hampshire. Disconnected." (JRT)

Away From the Hustings

- A 35-year-old man who underwent the world's first baboon-to-human liver transplant has been moved from the intensive care unit to a regular room at Presbyterian University Hospital in Pittsburgh, a hospital spokesman said.
- A study of gender bias in the U.S. court system found that women lawyers, clients and employees face bias and harassment that ranges from subtle comments to "groping under the conference table," according to the survey in nine Western states.
- A man who had been paroled from prison three months ago was charged with the murders of five young women and a 14-year-old girl in Orange and Dutchess counties of New York State about 80 miles north of New York City.
- Twenty-six major fires blackening about 148,000 acres (60,000 hectares) were raging in Western states, and fire officials predicted the worst may be yet to come.
- Calling the nation's system of child-support enforcement "a dinosaur mired in paper," the U.S. Commission on Interstate Child Support recommended that Congress make it a crime for a parent to willfully fail to pay support.
- U.S. prosecutors refused a judge's request to prosecute the founder of the anti-abortion group Operation Rescue on criminal contempt charges, citing the Bush administration's support for the group.
- An F-117A Stealth fighter crashed and exploded in a remote area near La Luz, New Mexico, but the pilot ejected without serious injury, the authorities said.
- The assassin of Senator Robert F. Kennedy, Sirhan B. Sirhan, was denied parole for the 14th time in California, where he is serving a life sentence for the killing. (UPI, WP, NYT, Reuters, AP)

The Health-Care Shoot-Out

2 Candidates Stress Their Differences

By Dana Priest and Spencer Rich
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — The emergence of health care as a hot issue in the presidential race has resulted in campaign discourse that sounds like something from the bad old days of the Cold War.

President George Bush has been saying that Governor Bill Clinton's health-care system would have the compassion of the Soviet secret police. The Arkansas governor has responded with his own charge that the president's proposal amounts to "the same old placebo" and that Mr. Bush "displays no passion" for resolving the crisis.

Beyond the attempt to cast each other's proposals in the most extreme and unfavorable light, there are very real differences between Mr. Bush's and Mr. Clinton's approaches to fixing what both agree is a broken system. There is some common ground as well.



Bill Clinton attending the funeral in Washington of a campaign official, C. Victor Raiser II, and his son, who died in a plane crash in Alaska. One row back was Al Gore, facing his wife, Tipper.

To cure the health-care crisis, policy experts agree, two questions must be answered: How do you increase access to health care for Americans who now cannot afford it, and how do you control soaring costs? There are 36 million Americans without health insurance, and for many years medical spending has climbed at double the rate of inflation.

On the basics: Mr. Clinton would guarantee health care for every American; Mr. Bush wants to make it easier for businesses to afford health insurance for employees.

Mr. Clinton would have the government set aggregate, nationwide spending ceilings, which would be translated by states into price controls. Mr. Bush wants to bring prices down through competition between health-care providers over customers.

The president's proposal relies mainly on the market system to solve the problem. He would give vouchers to the poor — worth \$1,250 for an individual and \$3,750 a year for families of three or more — and tax deductions for the middle class of the same amount to buy health insurance.

To control costs, Mr. Bush believes that if small businesses form large insurance-purchasing groups they can get lower premiums from insurers and reduce administrative costs. He proposes greater use of health-maintenance organizations, or HMOs, reform of malpractice laws and development of computer-billing and medical-history networks to reduce spending.

Mr. Clinton's plan requires all employers either to provide their employees with private health insurance or to pay a fee to enroll them in a government-certified public plan. Low-income people without jobs could join a public plan with a government subsidy.

As the general election campaign begins, each side is trying to cast the other's proposal in the most extreme light.

Mr. Bush portrays Mr. Clinton's proposal as a quick race toward an uncaring system run by government bureaucrats. "We'll have a health-care system with the efficiency of the motor vehicles," he said, referring to the motor vehicle administration, "and also the KGB, the same compassion."

"As long as I am president," he said Monday in Dalton, Georgia, "I am not going to let our medical system be socialized or nationalized."

In fact, Mr. Clinton's proposal would leave the operation of hospitals and clinics in private hands, and it would be up to those providers to figure out how to live within the cost controls set by the government.

The Arkansas governor, with the help of vocal congressional Democrats, says Mr. Bush's plan would not remedy the problems of access and cost. The president's plan "combines the compassion of his anti-recession program with the efficiency of his S&L bailout," Senator John D. Rockefeller 4th, Democrat of West Virginia, said at a news conference Tuesday, adding

that he could not understand how Mr. Bush could be "so callous, so indifferent and so un knowledgeable" on the issue.

In fact, although the president speaks often about preserving the "free market," his plan, health-care analysts say, would reshape the insurance industry, killing off many small companies that make their profits by insuring the healthiest and lowest-risk individuals.

Both candidates argue that their plans will preserve "what's best" in the American health-care system — namely, the ability of individuals to choose a personal physician or hospital. In fact, both proposals, health-care analysts say, would push more Americans into HMOs and other managed-care arrangements that are more cost-efficient than traditional fee-for-service arrangements.

There is other common ground. Both Mr. Bush and Mr. Clinton contend that their proposals will not require tax increases but can be paid for through cost savings that would result from their changes.

Both proposals also preserve the private insurance system and the employer as the primary payer of insurance, although Republicans argue that Mr. Clinton's government-insurance option is only a veiled step toward a totally government-run system.

Both plans also alter the health industry to make it easier for businesses to buy insurance for people with existing medical conditions and easier for employees to carry their insurance with them to new jobs.

High Stakes at Ex-Spy Chief's Trial

Former CIA Aide Mentions, but Doesn't Implicate, Bush

By Ronald J. Ostrow
Los Angeles Times Service

WASHINGTON — A former CIA operative who coordinated arms shipments to the Nicaraguan contras testified that he changed his mind about leaving Central America after a 1986 meeting in then-Vice President George Bush's office.

The testimony by the Central Intelligence Agency operative, Felix Rodriguez, which came at the perjury and obstruction trial of the former CIA spy chief, Clair E. George, did not implicate Mr. Bush because Mr. Rodriguez said that the secret 1986 efforts to supply the contras were not discussed in Mr. Bush's presence.

But the introduction of Mr. Bush's name indicates the high political stakes surrounding the trial of Mr. George, the highest CIA official to be indicted in the Iran-contras scandal.

Mr. Rodriguez said Tuesday he had requested the meeting with Mr. Bush to notify him he was planning to leave El Salvador because his idea of introducing helicopter tactics to the Salvadoran Air Force had caught on and he wanted to be reunited with his family in the United States.

But Mr. Rodriguez said he changed his mind after he drew

praise at the meeting from the U.S. ambassador to El Salvador at the time, Edwin G. Corr, for the "significant" work he had been doing to help fight Communist-backed insurgents. Mr. Corr said he wanted Mr. Rodriguez to stay in El Salvador for as long as he was ambassador, Mr. Rodriguez said.

Four of the nine counts against Mr. George accuse him of giving false statements to House and Senate committees in October 1986 about his knowledge of Mr. Rodriguez's involvement in the contra resupply work. While Mr. Rodriguez testified that he did not meet Mr. George until last month, his testimony corroborated that of the government's main witness, Alan D. Piers Jr., former chief of the CIA's Central American task force.

In trying to introduce his "helicopter concept" to the Salvadoran struggle in 1985, Mr. Rodriguez said he turned to Donald Gregg, then Mr. Bush's national security adviser. Mr. Gregg, now U.S. ambassador to South Korea, had been his CIA superior in Vietnam in 1970-72 when Mr. Rodriguez developed the helicopter tactics, which included operating at near treetop level.

Mr. Gregg arranged a meeting for Mr. Rodriguez with an assistant secretary of state, and Mr. Rodriguez also met Mr. Bush in January

1985, he testified, where they discussed the helicopter concept, but not contra resupply. Two months later he was in El Salvador where he stayed until 1989.

Mr. Rodriguez said he became involved in the contra resupply at the request of Oliver L. North, then a National Security Council aide.

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Hong Kong	008-1877	+ Thailand	001-998-13-877
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Portent of a Thaw As Russia and Japan End Talks on Kurils

By James Sterngold
New York Times Service

TOKYO — Senior Russian and Japanese officials ended talks Wednesday showing new flexibility in their attempts to resolve the last major Cold War issue separating them, Russia's grip on four bleak northern islands seized from Japan in the waning days of World War II.

The Russian official also confirmed that his government wanted the United States to participate and should consider reducing its heavy military presence in the region if Russia gives up some of the islands, where it maintains military bases.

Although there were no breakthroughs, both sides sought to emphasize a more positive tone in their talks on an issue that, though modest in substance, carries emotional, political and historical significance for each and could affect the balance of power in East Asia in the years ahead.

Mikhail Potioranin, a deputy prime minister, said here that Boris N. Yeltsin, the Russian president, supported a formula agreed upon in 1956 but never implemented by which Russia would return the two smallest islands in return for the conclusion of a peace treaty and normalization of relations.

Mr. Yeltsin is scheduled to visit Japan in mid-September and the islands, which lie just east of Japan's northernmost island of Hokkaido, are expected to dominate the discussions, along with Russia's request for billions of dollars in financial aid.

According to a Finance Ministry official, Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa replied to Mr. Potioranin that if Russia agreed to the principle that the islands would all eventually be returned to Japanese control, Tokyo would be more flexible than in the past when the return should actually take place.

Japan has long insisted that it would share none of its vast wealth with Russia until the islands were returned.

Mr. Miyazawa also hinted Wednesday that it might be willing to provide financial aid with Russia's agreement in principle to Japanese sovereignty over the islands.

Known as the Kurils, the islands include Etorofu, Kunashiri, Shikotan and the Habomai group of islands.

"If we can agree on basic principles, we should think flexibly on the timing and conditions" of the return, Mr. Miyazawa was reported to have said.

Mr. Potioranin said that Russia has "mountains of proposals on economic cooperation with Japan."

He said these may include inviting Japanese manufacturers to use factories that had been involved in producing military-related goods.

The Finance Ministry official also indicated that Russia might share its space technology with Japan if aid were offered in substantial quantities.

Both sides were angling for advantage. Mr. Potioranin said that Mr. Yeltsin had to be cautious in any proposals he might make because he was contending with nationalists in Russia who were adamantly opposed to the return of any territory.

In addition, he said that any agreement that might create homeless refugees in Russia, if the islands are evicted, could threaten progress in relations with Japan.

Mr. Miyazawa was dangling the prospect of billions of dollars in aid.

To suggest even greater seriousness on his side, Mr. Potioranin said that he would fly Thursday to Okinawa for first-hand information on how the islands coped with the U.S. occupation after World War II, and then with a return to Japan in 1972.

On Bosnia, Clinton Aggressive, Bush Wary

By Paul F. Horvitz
International Herald Tribune

WASHINGTON — Sharp differences between Governor Bill Clinton and President George Bush continued to emerge Wednesday over how the United States should react to reports of atrocities in the civil war in Bosnia.

Mr. Bush, in a newspaper interview, expressed deep reluctance about sending U.S. forces into battle in the former republic of Yugoslavia unless a quick victory could be assured. He used Vietnam as an analogy. And he said he had not yet "thought out" military options.

At a meeting with high school students in Illinois, Mr. Clinton repeated his call for an immediate United Nations investigation of detention camps in Bosnia. He added that "we may have to use military force," starting with air strikes.

His vice presidential running mate, Senator Al Gore, said European leaders had been "a little timid" in the Balkans.

Mr. Clinton declared: "I think that we cannot afford to ignore what appears to be a deliberate systematic extermination of human beings based on their ethnic origin. The United Nations was set up to stop things like that and we ought to stop it."

The issue of atrocities arose over the weekend with reports from refugees that Serbian gunmen were beating and killing Muslim and Croatian civilians held in scores of detention centers in Bosnia. The U.S. State Department later said it had independent confirmation of atrocities but a day later announced that it had no substantiation.

On the surface, Mr. Clinton's position calling for UN consideration of multilateral action is not substantially different from the current White House policy of supporting a new UN resolution authorizing the use of "all necessary means" to ensure the delivery of humanitarian aid to Bosnia.

The difference lies in the willingness to implement such a policy vigorously. Mr. Clinton is pressing for quick action and



A couple sifting through the ruins of their home Wednesday in a Muslim part of Sarajevo.

gaining substantial backing in Congress from both Democratic and Republican members. Mr. Bush stresses negotiation, caution and gradualism.

Mr. Bush, in an interview published Wednesday in USA Today, said he was "desperately worried about the suffering" in Bosnia. But he said the lesson from Vietnam was: "Don't get bogged down in a guerrilla war where you don't know what the hell you're doing and you tie the hands of the military."

He added, "If I send a kid into battle, the force is going to be

there to be sure he, or her, are on the winning side and fast."

Military force in the Balkans "is an option that I haven't thought out yet," he said.

The president added, "I don't see the answers to my questions in terms of the use of substantial American force in Yugoslavia."

On Tuesday, Mr. Clinton called for an immediate session of the UN Security Council to demand that the International Committee of the Red Cross be given access to all detention camps. The demand should be backed up, he said, by "collective

action, including the use of force, if necessary," with the United States providing "appropriate" military support.

The United Nations, Mr. Clinton said, should "consider doing whatever it takes to stop the slaughter of civilians, to investigate, under international law, whether there have been any human rights violations, and we may have to use military force."

He added, "I would begin with air power against the Serbs to try to restore the basic conditions of humanity."

Iraqi Food Imports Dropping Sharply Dinar's Fall and Executions Said to Disrupt the Economy

By Paul Lewis
New York Times Service

AMMAN, Jordan — Iraq's imports of such basic foods as rice, sugar, cooking oil and tea have fallen sharply in recent weeks, say government officials here and private traders in the Jordanian capital who handle most of Iraq's import needs.

Iraqi merchants have virtually ceased placing new orders here for some weeks now, their Jordanian counterparts say, apparently because of the disruption caused by a more than 50 percent fall in the value of the Iraqi dinar last month and after Baghdad executed about 40 merchants it had accused of profiteering.

This sudden devaluation of the dinar, which pushed the Iraqi currency down from about 14 dinars to the dollar to 22 or 24, and the disruption it caused may represent a first success for a reported plan by the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency in Saudi Arabia to destabilize President Saddam Hussein's government by flooding Iraq with forged dinar notes in order to create hyperinflation.

The total flow of Iraqi imports through the Jordanian port of Aqaba — most of which consists of staple foods — has dropped sharply from a 1992 peak of 550,000 tons in May to 160,000 tons in June, and only 80,000 tons in July, Finance Minister Basil Jarrahah of Jordan said.

With private Iraqi merchants no longer ordering, most of this food is now being imported by the Baghdad government, which provides Iraqis with a basic monthly food ration at very low prices.

Mr. Jarrahah said he could not explain the fall, but he speculated it

might either mean Iraq had sufficient stocks to last for a while or that it was running low on dollars to pay for new supplies.

While Iraq traditionally imports flour and processed foods from neighboring Turkey, Syria and Iran, the port of Aqaba is the cheapest entry point for rice, sugar, cooking oil and tea, which come by ship from the Far East.

Mr. Jarrahah said that the government was strictly enforcing UN sanctions against Iraq by allowing it to import only food and medicine and certain other supplies approved by the Security Council.

He said Secretary of State James A. Baker 3d had appeared satisfied with Jordan's enforcement procedures after being briefed on the situation when he visited Amman on July 21.

In June, after a U.S. intelligence estimate that 30 percent of the goods crossing from Jordan into Iraq violated sanctions, the U.S. director of central intelligence, Robert M. Gates, visited Amman in an unsuccessful effort to persuade King Hussein to install UN monitors on the border to check what was being exported to Iraq.

But the visit led to a tightening of Jordanian controls, diplomats here say, which appear to have eliminated many sanctions violations.

The United States, Britain and France, which have stationed warships outside Aqaba to enforce the sanctions, also have stepped up searches of cargo vessels using the port to look for banned Iraqi imports or exports.

Diplomats here say the number of trucks crossing into Iraq from Turkey has fallen sharply in recent weeks. The situation on Iraq's borders with Syria and Iran is unclear.

Reagan 'Not a Target' In Iran-Contra Affair

By David Johnston
New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — After more than five years of work, the Iran-contra independent prosecutor has told former President Ronald Reagan in a letter that he is not under investigation for his role in the scandal that stained the final years of his presidency.

The letter strongly suggests that the prosecutors have concluded that the evidence does not warrant criminal charges against Mr. Reagan. It was sent to the former president's lawyers by Lawrence E. Walsh, the Iran-contra prosecutor.

In it, Mr. Walsh said in part, "This office regards President Reagan as simply a witness and not as a subject or target."

For prosecutors, who began their work in late 1986, Mr. Walsh's letter amounted to a final acknowledgment that the exhaustive inquiry had unearthed no clear-cut evidence directly tying Mr. Reagan to any wrongdoing.

Some lawyers who have followed the investigation said that even if Mr. Walsh had amassed evidence against Mr. Reagan, he would have been extremely reluctant to charge a former president with a criminal offense in the absence of an outright case.

Moreover, even if prosecutors had obtained some evidence against Mr. Reagan, they would have been dissuaded from charging him on other grounds, most of all because of the daunting legal complexities involved in prosecuting a former president for his conduct in carrying out his duties as a chief executive.

In addition, if Mr. Walsh is troubled by Mr. Reagan's actions, he has another vehicle, a final report to Congress, that he can use to level his criticism.

That would avoid the trauma likely to be caused by the prosecution of a popular former president for acts that occurred six years ago and that have largely faded from public consciousness.

Theodore B. Olson, who is a lawyer for Mr. Reagan and who sought the letter from Mr. Walsh, said it meant that the former president was out from under legal jeopardy.

"It has been my understanding that President Reagan is not being considered by the independent counsel's investigation as someone who is a candidate for indictment or as a potential defendant in any way," Mr. Olson said.

Yeltsin, Starting a Vacation, Promises He'll Stay in Touch

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

MOSCOW — President Boris N. Yeltsin began a two-week holiday at the Black Sea coastal resort of Sochi on Wednesday.

Sochi has high-rise hotels and crowded beaches, but alongside the bustle of the town lie the secluded and guarded villas used by leaders since Stalin's time.

A spokesman said the Russian president, who is under heavy pressure from conservatives to change course in his market reforms, would stay in close contact with the capital.

"Yeltsin has all the communications he needs," the spokesman said.

During a similar two-week vacation on the Black Sea last fall, Mr. Yeltsin's advisers bickered among themselves and complained that he could not be reached. Vice President Alexander V. Rutskoi said he had tried to reach Mr. Yeltsin a dozen times by telephone but had not been able to get through.

Mr. Yeltsin said last month that the August 1991 coup attempt by conservative hard-liners would not be repeated, but he declared he would spend the month in Moscow.

His office now says he will probably be back in the Kremlin by Aug. 18. On that date last year, the coup plotters cut off the telephones of Mikhail S. Gorbachev, the Soviet president, at his Crimean vacation home.

Mr. Yeltsin's spokesman said the president and his family, including his two daughters and three grandchildren, had arrived in Sochi ready to swim, play volleyball and hit the tennis courts. (Reuters, AP)

Investigator Dies at Thai Air Crash Site

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

KATMANDU, Nepal — The head of the team investigating the crash of a Thai Airways jetliner died of altitude sickness after visiting the wreck in the Himalayan foothills, a Nepalese official said Wednesday.

The official said that Gordon Corps, a British test pilot for the plane's European manufacturer, Airbus Industrie, was struck Tuesday at 3,515 meters (11,500 feet) on Talukrisi mountain and died while he was being brought down to the camp where the salvage operation is based.

A helicopter that was to bring Mr. Corps's body to Katmandu was stranded because of bad weather at a makeshift heliport in a mountain village.

The Airbus A310-300, on a flight from Bangkok, overflew the Katmandu airport Friday and slammed into the mountain at cruising speed. It exploded with 20 tons of fuel, shattering the craft.

The exact cause of the crash has not been determined.

Minutes before losing contact with the control tower, the pilot had reported he had overcome a technical problem, but he did not say what it was.

A Japanese newspaper reported Wednesday that the airliner had developed repeated faults in its autopilot warning system last month.

The newspaper, Yomiuri Shimbun, said maintenance records indicated that Thai Airways ground crews repeatedly replaced key computers and checked electrical circuits. The newspaper said records indicated up to 10 warning system faults in July, but it was unclear whether the problems were related to the crash.

"We can assure you that 10 faults were not found in the plane," a senior Thai Airways official said at a news conference. "It may possibly be only one or two times for such technical findings, which are normal for any type of aircraft," he said.

Yomiuri Shimbun said maintenance records indicated that an alarm went off in the aircraft's cockpit on a July 3 flight, warning the pilot that the autopilot system was disengaged while the plane was still being flown by the system.

It said the pilot returned to the Bangkok airport without incident.

The ground crew replaced the plane's flight control computer and the flight warning computer, but the same false alarm went off again the next day, the newspaper reported.

It said more computers were replaced, but that the same fault was reported several times until July 11, when the case was referred to the airline's maintenance control center for further investigation.

Yomiuri Shimbun said the plane had a regular 350-flight-hour check on July 22, but the same fault was reported three days later. It said that records showed the Thai Airways crew inspected the circuits and the computers, but that the alarm went off again on July 29. (AP, Reuters)

ESCOBAR: In His Gilded Jail, Drug Lord Had It All CASTRO: Semper Fidelis, in the Anomalous Cuba

(Continued from page 1)

general, Gustavo de Greiff. "It is absolutely incredible that no one saw the alarm bell, that no one said anything."

The authorities suspect that a food truck with a false bottom may have smuggled in the contraband items seized from lockers after Mr. Escobar's escape: computers, pistols, tear-gas masks, radiotelephones, a cellular phone and bundles of U.S. currency.

But not all of Mr. Escobar's comforts were obtained illicitly. Correspondence between officials and lawyers for Mr. Escobar in the period leading up to his surrender to the authorities shows that the lawyer won guarantees of his freedom to choose his guards and to design his jail, nicknamed The Cathedral.

Inside the jail, 17 members of the 28-man guard service were picked by Mr. Escobar's allies in the municipal government of Enavigado, his power base for two decades. Dressed in civilian clothes, these 17 guards patrolled the jail's innermost security ring, according to

Colombia's National Association of Prison Guards.

Their shift from prison guard to bodyguard became apparent during the army's recent early-morning assault to reassert control over Mr. Escobar and his 14-fellow inmates. While guards from the federal service offered no resistance, seven of the Enavigado guards fought back.

The army assault was prompted in part by Mr. Escobar's refusal to allow security changes at The Cathedral. According to a government report made public last week, an engineering company inspected the jail in October and found it "very vulnerable" to escape.

In January, Fernando Carrillo Flores, then the justice minister, maintained that the prison did "not fulfill the minimum requirements for a high-security jail." He recommended a \$4 million construction plan, including fencing off prisoners' free access to the prison grounds and fortifying perimeters with concrete wire, land mines and electronic sensors.

But work progressed slowly. On June 8, it stopped entirely after "two prisoners demanded that the contractors suspend work," according to the government report. Unhappy with the changes, Mr. Escobar summoned a crew of Enavigado city workers, who started to tear down an offending stretch of electrified fence. Army officers ordered that the fence be put back up.

"As soon as work resumed, 10 prisoners intimidated and beat the construction foreman and, with death threats, demanded suspension of work," the report reported for June 12. "Work was suspended."

By realities of consumer shortages and inefficiency.

Mr. Castro's dictatorship may yet fall to revolt, putsch or civil war. He has lost much support and is the focus of growing personal criticism. His grip on power is sustained largely by the huge state security system. And because Cuba is an island, Mr. Castro can seal his borders far more easily than former President Erich Honecker was able to seal East Germany's in the days before the Berlin Wall came apart.

Yet Cuba does not fit the East Bloc stereotype. Despite its three decades of economic dependence on the Soviet Union, Mr. Castro never took orders from the Kremlin as East European leaders did, nor did he assume power with Moscow's connivance in the first place.

As a result, while Mikhail S. Gorbachev's decision to stop propping up the world's Communist regimes had disastrous economic consequences for Cuba, the political impact for Mr. Castro was muted.

To a degree that the old, gray East Bloc leaders could only dream of, Mr. Castro has hatched his political fortunes to Cuba's potent nationalism. His anti-American rhetoric plays to many Cubans' resentment toward the historical dominance of the United States, which earlier this century claimed a right to intervene militarily in Cuba at will.

Mr. Castro constantly portrays the United States as a hostile aggressor bent on restoring its former hegemony in Cuba. In the United States, many academic experts and diplomats acknowledge that Washington's 30-year-old trade embargo against the island helps bolster Mr. Castro's standing by providing him with an image of fortress Cuba as well as with the enemy he needs to justify his single-party state.

Cuba's official press organizations have also played up stories about anemic U.S. aid to the emerging democracies of Eastern Europe and Latin America. The stories imply that if Cuba turned to democracy, it could not expect much help from Washington.

The result is that many Cubans who have tired of Mr. Castro or hope for his demise remain opposed to U.S. interference in their country's affairs. In him they see a symbol of Cuban sovereignty — even if he is following a discredited economic dream.

Beyond the tug of nationalism, Cubans know — as did East Europeans — that the West is more efficient and richer than their own country. Images of life in the United States come to the island through American television shows and movies and the accounts of friends and relatives in exile.

But in conversation with journalists, many Cubans also say that their system spares them the worst ills of U.S.-style capitalism: hunger, homelessness and high medical costs. They know that their system is in decay, but they also know that it shields most from competition, from the need to pay for education and from the wide gaps between rich and poor that typify most Latin American societies.

Mr. Castro has also capitalized on Cuba's racial diversity and its enormous exile community, two factors that were never at the disposal of Eastern Europe's leaders in the 1989 revolutions.

The hundreds of thousands of Cuban exiles in southern Florida, just a 45-minute jet flight from Havana, are passionately anti-Communist. In rhetoric that is invariably belligerent, many say they will never negotiate with Mr. Castro, and some vow to return to take back the property he seized from them three decades ago.

Just below the surface there is also a clear racial message in Mr. Castro's politics. Wealthy Cubans in Miami, many of whom are whites who left the island soon after the 1959 revolution, are a focus of anxiety for many blacks who remained on the island.

Older blacks remember their status in prerevolutionary Cuba as second-class citizens in an extremely race- and class-conscious society.

Their prospects under Mr. Castro may not be very good, but the triumphant return from Miami of Cuba's old white oligarchy is a threatening prospect for many blacks on the island.

Cuba's brand of totalitarianism is at least as smothering as the old East Bloc, and it has been more successful in averting the emergence of any group or individual that may look like an alternative to communism or Mr. Castro.

In Poland, the Roman Catholic Church acted as a catalyst for opposition to the old regime, as well as a place where workers and intellectuals joined in a coalition that eventually led to the triumph of the Solidarity movement.

In Cuba, however, the Catholic Church has never been very strong, and it was weakened further by repression in the years after the revolution.

The regime's campaign against dissident organizations has kept them small, fragmented and in disarray. The groups consist almost entirely of intellectuals, few workers or students have joined.

Since there is no independent means of supporting oneself in Cuba, the dissidents live in fear that the government will take away their food rations or their housing. And more simply, as Cuba's economy sinks ever deeper into destitution, many people are becoming too hungry or too tired or too busy making ends meet to rise up against the regime.

ACROSS

1 Gasket type
8 Ore site
10 Cautionary conjunction
14 Rice dish
15 German river
16 Olive genus
17 Monad
18 Hafty book
19 A memorable Khayyam
20 He wouldn't be without it

DOWN

23 Geometric curvature center
27 Pheasant brood
28 Kiel and Erie
29 Elevating to a bishopric
32 Make peace
34 Covers a wall before papering
35 Negative connective
36 Deeds' needs: Abbr.
37 State-trimming tools

Solution to Puzzle of August 5

RAF	FIELDER	GTN
EGO	ASLOOSE	HIE
PAX	ROARING	CAMP
ERIC	PETEROSE	
LIERNES	EREB	
SCREAMERS	ERGOT	
ERD	HON	YUMA
COR	DECIBEL	NBC
SUET	NUN	UAR
ATSEA	BOOMBOXES	
BOLL	DESERVE	
UNLOCKED	RAZE	
CRASHHELMET	TNY	
PST	AERIALS	EMY
ATE	STRANGE	DEO

ACROSS

23 Hades flower
7 Repute
8 Turned into an evil spirit
9 Hermits
10 Less constraining
11 Sailor's saint
12 Baseball feature
13 Biblical weed
21 Dol, parts
22 Singable verses
23 Plant's establishment in a new habitat
24 Carrying bag

DOWN

1 W.W. II agcy.
2 Tire site
3 Saine sight
4 Pinch
5 Mexican rubber plant

26 Albacore
28 Honshu bay
40 Like some roofs
41 Ice pinnacle
42 Ophiolians
44 Equestrian school
45 Old chest for valuables
46 Established
47 N.F.L. offenses
51 Moundman's mistake
52 Rum portions
53 Commodious
58 Zone
59 Sib of Ares
60 Attire for a pilot
61 Motorists' oldies
62 Hindu stableman
63 A memorable Kelauser

25 Ancient war engine
26 Old Baltic cotins
29 Commingles
30 Accustomed
31 Inmature years
32 Favored
34 Proceeding by leaps

41 Ktelbasa, e.g.
43 Arctic jackets
44 Tue. preceeder
46 Ditch
47 Ski litt

48 Taxi exaction
49 Buttrine
50 Suffix with Ham
54 Pub. company piloup

55 Olympic heaver's throw
56 Commit perjury
57 Caen connections

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BRIEF

Expand Use
Cancer Drug

Being a Boom
Child Births

سورعة الاصل

HEALTH/SCIENCE

Taste: The Hot Line to the Brain

By Jane E. Brody
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — Shrimp barbecued in a tangy marinade may seem to delight your taste buds, but as researchers who study the workings of individual taste cells have recently shown, such a dish would send those tiny sensory organs in your mouth into overdrive as they raced through a series of recently discovered biochemical reactions to process the complex seasonings even before you swallowed the first bite.

The information gleaned from taste-cell studies, mainly on animals like the mudpuppy and catfish, is expected to lead eventually to many tangible benefits.

These include modifying people's "taste appetites" to aid in weight control, make dull, nutritious foods taste better, improving the taste perceptions and appetites of the elderly, producing tastier substitutes for sugars and salt, and developing drugs to counter taste disorders.

Contrary to long-held beliefs, the new studies reveal taste buds to be far more than simple receptors that passively pick up sweet, sour, salty and bitter substances and pass chemical signals to the brain to tell you what you are eating and help you decide whether you want more.

Rather, the research has shown that cells in

the taste buds actively accept, reject and modify taste stimuli through a complicated network of chemical and electrical signals that the brain understands instinctively but that scientists are just now scrambling to unravel.

For example, researchers at the Roche Institute of Molecular Biology in Nutley, New Jersey, recently published their identification of an important protein messenger in taste buds, gustducin, that is activated in response to all sweet and some bitter taste stimuli.

According to Dr. Robert F. Margolisek and his colleagues, gustducin's role in taste buds is comparable to that of protein receptors called transducins in the eye.

Transducins, which are far better studied messenger chemicals, help to translate the light that reaches the retina into messages to be sent to the brain.

Gustducin, which is found only in taste buds, acts as an intermediary between the receptor molecule for sweet stimuli and a chain of subsequent steps, finally sending a message to the brain that something sweet has been tasted.

"Taste research has not been a high-priority item with our major funding agency, the National Institutes of Health," said Dr. Stephen D. Roper, a neurobiologist at Colorado State University in Fort Collins, "although this may change now that connections have been established between taste and the control of food intake."

As scores of studies recently summarized by Dr. Roper in the Journal of Neuroscience have shown, each of the four basic tastes

impinges upon taste cells in its own way, setting off reactions that change the cells' electrical charge and trigger the release of chemical messengers that ultimately tell the brain what is being eaten.

Take, for example, the shrimp marinade. Each flavoring ingredient registers individually yet somehow gets integrated into a memorable taste sensation.

The sodium in the soy-based marinade flows readily into taste cells through channels in their membranes; the sour-tasting lemon juice closes the channels that normally let potassium flow out of the cells; the honey is greeted by cell-surface receptors that carry sweet taste stimuli over the threshold of the cell membrane; the bitterness in the orange rind closes potassium channels and also may link up with receptors, setting off a chain reaction that ultimately releases calcium within the cell.

At the same time, that generous pinch of cayenne that gave the marinade its special kick is irritating sensory nerve fibers in the tongue and nose and, in the process, enhancing perception of the other taste stimuli.

As Dr. Roper put it, the cells seem to "talk" to one another, passing taste information to and from and modifying it in still-mysterious ways before it gets to the brain.

"It's like a complicated chord in a musical piece," Dr. Roper explained in an interview. "The chords — bitter, sour, salt and sweet — probably have multiple notes. We've got one of those notes, but the others are not yet known."

Onions to Ions: Pathway From Tongue to Brain

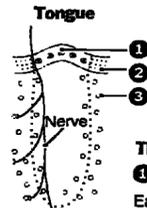
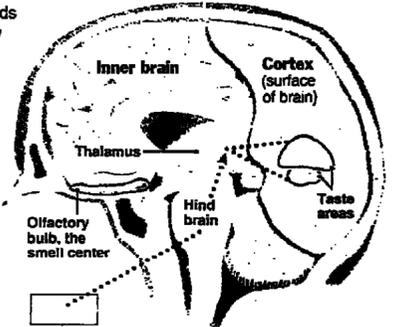
New research has shown that cells in the taste buds are not just passive receptors of sweet, sour, salty and bitter, but actively accept, reject and modify taste stimuli through complex chemical and electrical signals. Visible bumps called papillae contain multiple taste buds; in each bud, taste cells surround a pore.

The taste receptors

Receptor taste cells have chemically sensitive tips; basal cells interact with them and work out a message. For example, some tastes affect the workings of ion channels. Ion movements change the cells' electrical charge, triggering chemical messengers to the brain.

Recognition in the brain

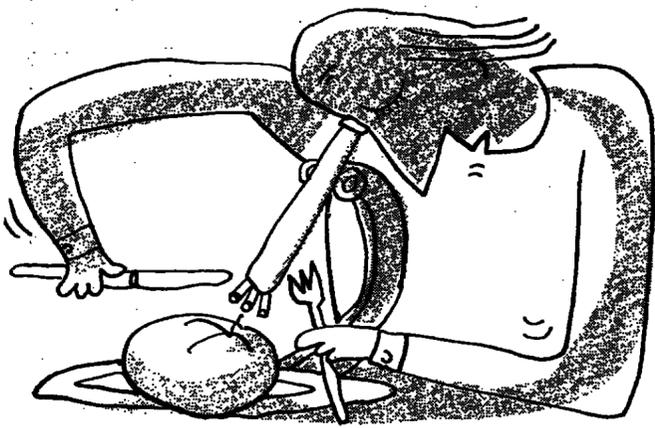
The end result of taste is a series of tiny electric signals to taste centers in the brain. There is no direct connection with the olfactory bulb, the center of smell processing, yet the sense of smell may represent 80 percent of flavor. The sensory centers interact in the brain in ways that are not yet known.



Three types of taste papillae
1 CIRCUMVALATE 2 FOLIATE 3 FUNGIFER
Each contains up to 250 taste buds. Each contains one to five taste buds.

Sources: "Principles of Neural Science," Kandel, Schwartz and Jessell (Elsevier); Dr. Stephen D. Roper

John Shaver/The New York Times



Genetic Jockeying Provokes Tomatophiles

By Molly O'Neill
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — There is fear and loathing among tomatophiles. Genetic jockeys are riding roughshod over their gastronomic Eden. They've inserted a gene into some tomatoes to thwart the ripening enzyme and slow rot. They've spliced an antifreeze gene from Arctic flounder into other tomatoes.

"Yuck," the writer Calvin Trillin said. "This sounds a little fishy."

Those who believe that vine-ripened, soft-walled, acid-flavored, summer-grown tomatoes are an inalienable right are quicker to take offense.

For them, "real tomatoes" are "an article of faith, a rallying point for the morally serious, a grill," writes Raymond Sokolov in his book "Why We Eat What We Eat." (Summit Books, 1991). The genetically altered tomato is a potential heretic. To change the tomato is to rend the social fabric.

Memories of the tomatoes of summer, lolling heavy on the vine, hot from the sun, are endangered by these brave new tomatoes. Even the future of the time-honored sport of

hurdlng rotten tomatoes at unsavory politicians hangs in the balance.

Pity the poor tomato! Its extraordinary genetic malleability has left it wide open to large-scale manipulation. In the last 200 years, it has been bred to be big and juicy, or thick-walled and pulpy, or round, or oval, or even in the case of VF 145, oblong, for ease of mechanical harvesting, though it was called "square." By now the tomato should not even know itself.

And yet the memory of its primordial, juicy and fleeting charms remains so vivid among tomatophiles that they would fling themselves under the train of progress that could save nearly \$2 billion in rotten tomatoes a year.

But this train is actually a fragile chain of DNA, so minute and elusive that it can't be flagged down, except perhaps by "issues" equally subtle and intimidating. So tomatophiles beat the drum of social and ethical concerns.

"The marketplace should be the voting booth where the public should be able to cast a ballot either in favor of eating whole, natural foods or in favor of eating gene-altered, analogue food," said Dr. Michael W. Fox, author of "Superpigs and Wondercorn," a book about the ethics of biotechnology, which will be published by Lyon & Burford in the fall.

If, as the Bush administration has recommended, geneti-

cally altered food is not labeled, and the public is none the wiser, Dr. Fox reasons, how can the public vote?

He also worries about what happens to the active nutrients, the vitamins and enzymes whose development is suspended along with the ripening process in some genetically altered tomatoes. And he worries about the delicate biochemical relationship between the physiology of humans and the foods they eat that has evolved over ages.

Genetic engineers wave such apocalyptic concerns aside. Such worries are a sort of smoke screen for the fact that tomatophiles are wed to memories of tomatoes grown generations before they were even born.

"These tomatoes of yore, well, they haven't been around for about three, four hundred years," said Thomas Churchwell, president of Calgene Fresh, the Chicago company that is about to introduce a tomato with a longer shelf life. Blasphemy! screech the tomatophiles. They testify to tomatoes that squashed rather than bouncing when dropped out a sixth-story window.

Not that the new technology doesn't suggest some advantages. Lee Bailey, the cookbook author who has recently written "Tomatoes" (Clarkson Potter), doesn't balk at the thought of Arctic flounder genes in his tomatoes. "Very Provencal, fish and tomatoes," he said.

For Gene Handling, a New Tool

By Malcolm W. Browne
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — By selectively breeding molecules, a California laboratory has created a new tool for manipulating the genes of living organisms.

The achievement, which is reported in the current issue of the journal Science, might one day yield new weapons against a variety of human diseases, including AIDS. The technique developed at the Scripps Research Institute in La Jolla, California, by Dr. Gerald F. Joyce and his colleagues mimics natural evolutionary processes by subjecting test-tube solutions of genetic molecules to the same kinds of conditions that produce new animal species.

Dr. Joyce has succeeded in inducing populations of ordinary RNA molecules to produce a new type of RNA molecule that can efficiently chop a DNA molecule apart, something no known RNA molecule had done.

Dr. Joyce showed that this laboratory-made RNA molecule could be used as a template for making a snippet of new DNA, which when inserted into the common bacterium E. coli, rendered it immune to attack by a virus called M13.

"Protecting a bacterium against a disease that attacks only bacteria may not seem very practical," Dr. Joyce said, "but it demonstrates a principle that may have far-reaching applications in attacking human diseases. For me, the main satisfaction was in finding that molecules can evolve, just as animal species evolve when they are subjected to selective evolutionary pressures. It's Darwinian evolution in a test tube."

Dr. Joyce's work was partly financed by the AIDS division of the National Institutes of Health, with the object of finding chemical loopholes through which the DNA-altering ability of the human immunodeficiency virus, which causes AIDS, could be disabled.

The work may also shed light on the origin of life. Many scientists believe that variants of RNA, the messenger molecule that instructs amino acids to assemble themselves as proteins, including DNA, the master genetic blueprint of most living organisms. By promoting the evolution of molecules rather than entire organisms, the Scripps group vastly increased the number of constituents in the evolutionary process, and simultaneously reduced the time needed to create new variants.

Dr. Thomas R. Cech of the University of Colorado

in Boulder, who won the 1989 Nobel Prize in chemistry, described Dr. Joyce's achievement as "a real landmark."

The novelty of Dr. Joyce's system, Dr. Cech said, was that instead of attempting to design and build a new genetic molecule with the desired characteristics, the Scripps group simply created laboratory conditions "to let nature do the work."

The molecules Dr. Joyce used in his experiments belong to a class that Dr. Cech discovered, for which he won the Nobel Prize. Before the work of Dr. Cech and his co-winner, Dr. Sidney Altman of Yale University, RNA was considered to be purely a genetic messenger with no other functions.

But the two scientists found that RNA can also act as an enzyme, a substance that promotes chemical reactions. They found that certain RNA enzymes, those that Dr. Cech named ribozymes, could break apart and reorganize messenger RNA, thereby altering its genetic message.

Although ribozymes can efficiently cleave RNA molecules, they were thought to have little if any ability to cleave DNA molecules. But Dr. Joyce changed that view, creating ribozymes that have proved capable of splitting DNA fairly well.

The technique Dr. Joyce used may give genetic engineers an important new tool for removing unwanted genes from human disease or for inserting self-destructive genes in disease organisms.

HIV, for instance, has a genetic code consisting of RNA, but when it infects a healthy human cell, it copies the information from its own RNA code to the cell's DNA. Dr. Joyce said he believed that this infected DNA might be open to attack by some new ribozyme created by laboratory-induced evolution, offering a way to treat the disease. But he cautions that such a possibility is nowhere near realization.

Dr. Joyce and his colleagues have no idea why or how the new molecule works as it does.

"We don't attempt to design molecules rationally," he said. "We just stipulate what we want a molecule to do, and then let natural selection find the best way to go about it." Does the accelerated evolution of special-purpose RNA enzymes reproduce some of the steps by which natural evolution led from the first flicker of life four billion years ago to the human race?

Dr. Cech believes this question must remain forever unanswered, since no "fossils" remain of any of the primordial molecules from which life arose. But for Dr. Joyce, molecules from each evolutionary generation remain in frozen storage, available to retrace evolutionary pathways and to start new ones.

IN BRIEF

U.S. to Expand Use Of Anti-Cancer Drug

CORVALLIS, Oregon (AP) — The anti-cancer drug taxol will be made available to more women in the United States with breast cancer because of successes in clinical trials, according to a National Cancer Institute scientist. Supplies of the drug are limited because its only useful source is the bark of the Pacific yew tree.

U.S. Seeing a Boom In Multiple Births

WASHINGTON (WP) — The number of older women having babies and the increasing use of ovulation-inducing fertility drugs are fueling a dramatic baby boom of triplets, quadruplets and quintuplets in the United States.

How Warm the Sea? Coral Gives Answer

WASHINGTON (WP) — Information about the temperature of ancient tropical seas is stored in chemical form in fossil coral. Coral reefs are composed mostly of calcium carbonate, but a small fraction is composed of compounds in which strontium substitutes for calcium.

Why Deliver Babies? MDs Say They Like It

WASHINGTON (WP) — When researchers asked a group of family physicians why they continue to deliver babies as part of their medical practice while most of their colleagues do not, one answer came up much more often than any other: They like it.

A study at the National Center for Health Statistics compared higher-order multiple births (more than twins) from 1972 through 1974 and 1985 through 1989. It found a 113 percent increase among infants of white mothers and a 22 percent increase among those of black mothers.

Rest of Europe, N. Africa, former French Africa, Middle East \$ 630

Rest of Africa, Gulf States, Asia Central/Latin America \$ 780

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INTERNATIONAL Herald Tribune

Published with The New York Times and The Washington Post

Use Force Against Serbia

The West is not doing "nothing" to stop the Serbs from conducting their Nazi-like war crimes in Bosnia. It has launched a political offensive, organized an economic and diplomatic embargo and is striving to move the Yugoslav war into a negotiation. Still, the policy is woefully insufficient. The missing element is a readiness to use force. Western countries have succumbed to a paralysis of short-term operational and political prudence and of a patient exaggeration of the risks of involvement in another — take your pick — Vietnam, Beirut or Northern Ireland. These images of frustration have been allowed to overwhelm considerations of a realistic policy. By now the principle should be clear. What the Serbs, principally, are doing is grievous and unforgivable. Their acts include aggression, territorial conquest, "ethnic cleansing," bombardment of cities and reportedly — for those who still need a clincher — death camps. If allowed to continue without more serious challenge, these crimes invite repetition by others, with immense consequences for world order. Whether this prospect justifies the democracies' use of force should be considered a settled question. What is not settled is how best to apply force. The administration sloughs off the matter with worst-case scenarios and warn-

ings of ominous precedents, as though repeated, extravagant and doomed interventions were the only option. The president rebuffed Bill Clinton's offer of support for a targeted, internationally approved dollop of military pressure, even while, for a time anyway, supporting a similar idea himself. He would have done better to welcome the governor to a common national search for more effective ways to stop Serbia. The Pentagon has plenty of planners capable of providing an intelligent list of choices. Responding to the latest alarms, meanwhile, Al Gore suggests turning up the political heat on Serbia at the United Nations. The administration should already have done it. The Bush team has backed itself into a strange defeatist corner. Fairly enough, it puts off an all-out Iraq-type attack. Inevitably, it adds that Serbia would respond to an incremental attack by calling an American bluff to escalate. But why prejudice, in Serbia's favor, its likely response? Why not leave open the possibility that, instead of the United States being intimidated, Serbia will be sobered? Of course, it is also possible that a graduated military approach might not work and that Americans might decide not to escalate further. But at the least, some sort of military option would then have been tested. — THE WASHINGTON POST.

Vote That Russian Aid

The United States wants to propel Russia toward democracy, markets and disarmament. But you would never guess that by watching the House toy with the Bush administration's bill to assist the former Soviet republics. Proposed in April, the House bill — whose Senate version passed in early July — has remained bottled up in committee. The Russian economy is collapsing, and opposition is mounting to President Boris Yeltsin's pro-market reforms. Yet the House dabbles. If it delays much longer, there might be no reform government left to help. Western aid alone cannot turn the Russian economy around. But it can avert the shock of the transition to markets, help Mr. Yeltsin overcome domestic opposition and keep reforms marching forward. Russia's immediate need is \$5 or \$10 billion to import food, medicine and factory raw materials at a time when centralized controls have been dismantled but market controls have not arisen to take their place. The administration's bill would make a modest start. It would help to promote markets, dismantle exchange installations and facilitate the exchange of technical assistance. The money would be provided only if Russia keeps democratic and economic progress alive. The centerpiece of the bill would authorize a \$12 billion increase in the U.S. contribution to the International Monetary Fund. Because the money is considered a deposit, not an expenditure, it would not trigger tax increases or spending cuts. The U.S. deposit,

along with similar contributions by other fund members, would be used to support various IMF aid programs — including those it hopes to negotiate with Mr. Yeltsin. For now, the IMF is key. The West has promised the Russians a \$24 billion aid package; a chunk would come from the fund. And the IMF would have to approve Russia's economic plan before the aid package would be released. Agreement has proved disarmingly elusive. Some, but not all, of the problem is unnecessary rigidity on the part of the IMF. The fund's task has been made needlessly difficult by divisions within the Russian government. By reinforcing the reform faction, congressional action would make durable and believable commitments to monetary and fiscal austerity easier to strike. Western aid would allow the Russians to pay their bills without printing mountains of new rubles. That way Mr. Yeltsin can clamp down on inflation without damping down on the economy. And that might buy him some breathing space to launch his ambitious plans to privatize state-owned enterprises and open the economy to foreign trade and investment. The danger is that, without sizable help from abroad, the pain of market reform will prove breathtaking, impelling politicians to retreat to centralized controls. There is no excuse for the House to flirt with that disastrous possibility. — THE NEW YORK TIMES.

Stop the Sleaze Machine

Mary Malin's snarling press release attacking Governor Bill Clinton — it referred, among other things, to "bimbo eruptions" plaguing the Clinton campaign — is said to have embarrassed President George Bush. As well it should. Ms. Malin's broadside defied Mr. Bush's admonition to his staff to avoid personal invective. And it deflected public attention from his effort to start talking aggressively about issues. Despite Mr. Bush's disavowal of Ms. Malin's comments, issued through an aide, questions linger. Was she engaging in the political tactic known as "surrogate sleaze" — carrying out an authorized attack for which Mr. Bush could later deny responsibility? After all, as deputy campaign manager she is no small potato in the Bush reelection effort and is presumably in regular consultation with the White House. Even if Ms. Malin was flying solo, she may have done so in the confident expectation that her charges would be secretly welcomed. There is one other possibility: that Mr. Bush meant what he said the first time and that Ms. Malin never got the message. In that case the Bush campaign is more frazzled, incompetent and confused than even its worst critics suspected. Granted, presidential races are not tea parties. They are usually rough and often harsh. It is the rare candidate who can promote his own vision without ridiculing his opponent's. Senator Al Gore calls Mr. Bush a "hypocrite" on the environment. Mr. Bush says Mr. Clinton's health care program shows "all the compassion of the KGB." Even Ms. Malin's charge that Mr. Clinton's campaign is "lower than a snake's belly" fits comfortably into the less-than-noble tradition of American political discourse. The question is where to draw the line. Negative campaigns are disheartening enough; campaigns that employ personal invective are more so. Mr. Bush seemed to realize as much when in early July he repudiated a television commercial (independently produced by a Republican "opinion" pollster) in which he said the ad was "the kind of sleaze that diminishes the political process." That was not only the right thing to say. It was also politically shrewd. Voters are growing resistant to sleaze, and with the economy faltering they are far more interested in what both candidates intend to do about national problems than they are in anyone's personal life. That point appears to have escaped Ms. Malin. In an interview with The New York Times a few days before her press release, she said Bill Clinton's big problem was simply that he is "evasive and slick — we've never said to the press that he's a philianderer, pot-smoking draft dodger." "The way you just did," she was asked. "The way I just did," she conceded. Voters care about a candidate's character, about integrity and truthfulness, just as they care about the issues. In the end they tend to rely on the public record and their private instincts. Raw innuendo adds little to public enlightenment and discredits its author. Mr. Bush has now made that point twice. Beware if he has to make it again. — THE NEW YORK TIMES.

Other Comment

The UN's Balkan Challenge

To date, the United Nations has not found a way to handle the wars and the conflicts inherited from the East-West confrontation. The example of the war in the Balkans shows this clearly. The powers in the Security Council cannot agree on the line to follow, because none of them has an urgent interest in ending the war. The Americans see the whole thing as primarily a European matter, the Russians have their own problems and an affinity toward the Serbs, the British fear a military involvement, France hovers between "actionism" and cynicism, and China is little more than an interested observer. The secretary-general — whose office is the second major institution of crisis management at the UN — wants to prevent any further involvement of the United Nations in the Balkans. Boutros Boutros Ghali does not hide the fact that he feels his responsibility is primarily for the North-South conflict and the suffering of the Third World, mainly Africa. — Süddeutsche Zeitung (Munich).

INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE

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International Herald Tribune, 181 Avenue Charles-de-Gaulle, 92521 Neuilly-sur-Seine, France Tel: (1) 46.37.93.00. Telex: Advertis, 613995. Circulation: 612832. Editorial: 612718. Production: 630698

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S.A. au capital de 1.200.000 F. RCS Nanterre B 33021126. Commission Paritaire No. 61337

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Others Will Recall That 'Ethnic Cleansing' Worked

By Fred C. Ikle

WASHINGTON — The 20th century has taught that strange new political ideas can have late consequences. Fascism and Leninism, gulag and concentration camp, KGB and Gestapo are words that one cannot find in a 19th century dictionary. Another term has just been added: ethnic cleansing.

The phrase denotes a cunning strategy of territorial aggrandizement that today is being perfected in Bosnia, before the eyes of the world. The strategy has six elements.

First, its goals are sensibly limited, with none of the greed and foolishness of Hitler, who — upon annexing Austria and Czechoslovakia — could not stop his suicidal escalation and marched on to his own destruction. The circumstances of the ethnic cleansers make it easy for the world community to look the other way.

Second, those who inspire, organize and conduct the ethnic cleansing persist in denying any involvement. Such shrewdness stands in stark contrast, for example, to Leonid Brezhnev's boastful announcement in 1968 of an imperialist doctrine that trumpeted to the whole world what he had ordered Soviet forces to invade Czechoslovakia. Belgrade has announced no doctrine. Serbian mortars in Bosnia? No, these are German mortars. Serbs shooting at Muslim children? No, these are Muslims killing their own children.

Third, ethnic cleansing is done with a parsimonious use of force, carefully hitting civilians with discriminate precision, to avoid wounding munitions on military targets and to keep large forces in reserve. As a UN officer in Sarajevo recently observed, the mortars surrounding the

When Stalin took the Baltic republics, he merely thinned out the Baltic population and mixed in Russians. Milosevic will not repeat this mistake.

city, if fully employed, could destroy it. Those contemplating intervention have to worry about unleashing these reserve forces.

With so much weaponry of the former Yugoslav army now scattered through the landscape, the strategy works. It evokes fear of the Quagmire. Among the world's strongest military powers, The Quagmire is the most horrid specter; its apparition instantly turns the knees of military planners into jelly. Fourth, the strategy is wrapped into an

unctuous friendliness toward the United Nations and the European Community. With hand-wringing and crocodile tears, the leaders of the ethnic cleansing travel to Brussels, London and New York, regretting the bloodshed, in all diplomatic gatherings, and agreeing to every armistice that Lord Carrington, the hapless European Community mediator, proposes. The Führer of the ethnic cleansing campaign exhibits none of the provocative histrionics of a Goebbels, Lenin or Saddam Hussein, but always speaks soothingly and puts on a mournful mien.

Fifth, the strategy artfully turns the guilty into benevolent monitors and the monitors into the guilty. The cleansers manage to become the local police force under UN auspices. (As of today, for example, in parts of Croatia; tomorrow perhaps in Bosnia.) The UN and EC monitors and relief workers, on the other hand, are forced to become accessories to the crime. They remove those targeted by the "cleansing" to distant refugee camps. And neighboring countries feel guilty for not accepting more refugees.

Sixth, the strategy implements the territorial aggrandizement with utter ruthlessness, the better to guarantee its irreversibility. Thus, the conquerors need not fear any civic resis-

tance or future independence movements in the annexed territories. When Stalin annexed the Baltic republics, he merely thinned out the Baltic population and mixed in Russians. The strategy of ethnic cleansing will not repeat this mistake. It will achieve the truly final solution.

Success leads to imitation. If ethnic cleansing works in Bosnia, it may work in Bruma. Or in Cambodia. The Khmer Rouge may learn the "lesson of Bosnia" and cleanse the country of all Vietnamese and their alleged collaborators. Or, heaven forbid, a cabal of nationalistic Russian officers might plan the ethnic cleansing of the Crimea or the Baltics. Recalling the Bosnian lesson, they might conclude that the Western response would be harmless.

They will remember what the United Nations and NATO did in response to the ethnic cleansing of Bosnia and parts of Croatia. The United Nations blocked arms exports to all parties — to the armed Bosnian defenders as well as to the heavily armed Serbians. And NATO smartly deployed some of its finest ships in the Adriatic — but only to observe the martyred coastline from afar. Binoculars are not a good deterrent.

The writer, undersecretary of defense for policy in the Reagan administration, is with the Center for Strategic and International Studies. He contributed this comment to The Washington Post.

Russia's Post-Commonwealth Army Packs a Political Punch

By John Lough

SANDHURST, England — Boris Yeltsin's May 7 decree creating the Russian Armed Forces marked the end of efforts to keep together the old Soviet Army using the framework of the Commonwealth of Independent States. Mr. Yeltsin had declared that Russia would not create its own armed forces unless the actions of others forced it to do so. The insis-

terests have been seriously undermined by the policies of Mikhail Gorbachev and Mr. Yeltsin. Russia, they argue, must build its armed forces from scratch, since much of the former U.S.S.R.'s high-quality military infrastructure and equipment is located outside Russia's borders.

The first appointments made in the new Russian Defense Ministry were almost exclusively of hard-line young generals. The political leadership thus appears ready to cede ground to its nascent armed forces.

tence of Ukraine, Azerbaijan and Moldova on having their own armies provided the impetus. It is becoming clear why Mr. Yeltsin had postponed creating a Russian Army, when the commonwealth had seemed so clearly to have no future as a vehicle for managing common defense policy. By creating a Russian Army, Mr. Yeltsin, as supreme commander, has made himself responsible for the immensely powerful military constituency.

After the collapse of the U.S.S.R., the former Soviet military leadership backed Mr. Yeltsin's vision of the commonwealth. But when it failed to materialize in any meaningful way, Mr. Yeltsin and the generals were powerless to prevent the once heavily centralized Soviet forces from fragmenting. Ukraine, linchpin of the Russian-led commonwealth, pushed ahead with the creation of its own army. This left Russian military leaders in charge of a truncated army and with no clear statement of what they were supposed to be defending.

Now Mr. Yeltsin's new army has a clearly defined mission — the defense of Russia. Capitalizing on this, the new military leadership has effectively appointed itself the guardian of Russia's geopolitical interests.

On May 18 as Russian defense minister, General Pavel Grachev, 44, rallied against Russia's loss of much of the former Soviet Union's defenses against attack from the West.

"Some states are beginning to talk to Russia in a different way," he said, because "they have sensed that we are beginning to surrender our military positions."

This view is widespread in the former Soviet military leadership. It stems from the collapse of the Warsaw Pact, the withdrawal of Soviet forces from Central Europe, and Ukraine's de facto takeover of most of the forces on its territory. Military leaders say Russia's secu-

ity interests have been seriously undermined by the policies of Mikhail Gorbachev and Mr. Yeltsin. Russia, they argue, must build its armed forces from scratch, since much of the former U.S.S.R.'s high-quality military infrastructure and equipment is located outside Russia's borders.

Russia's new defense minister has criticized the "defeatist" decision to withdraw forces from Germany in four years, arguing that U.S. forces are being allowed 15 years. He has stated that a realistic starting date for the withdrawal of Russian forces from the Baltic states would be the

China's Politics-Shy Army Watches From the Wings

By Ellis Joffe

BEIJING — As China approaches the end of the Deng era, a key unknown is what role the army, 2.3 million strong, will play in the politics of succession. Whatever course the military takes, it will be decisively influenced by five factors.

The first is the distinct institutional identity of the armed forces. While maintaining an unquestioned but rather abstract commitment to control by the Communist Party, the military has developed concrete views and interests that clearly separate it from the party.

So military intervention in a political succession struggle is not a foregone conclusion; the army has interests that may militate against such action. If it does intervene, and is faced with a choice of which leadership group to support, the army can naturally be expected to back the one most responsive to its interests.

These interests are anchored in the professionalism of the Chinese military — which is the second factor that will shape its actions. Growth of professionalism has been an inevitable result of military modernization, especially under the aegis of Deng Xiaoping, the paramount leader. The much discussed politicization of the army, far from stifling this growth,

led to an enduring party-army conflict that has waxed and waned over the years. At the core of the conflict is a basic dispute over the relative importance of political and military considerations in determining the army's war-fighting doctrines, force-building policies and daily activities.

Professional officers have consistently opposed excessive intrusion of political controls over the army, saying they are incompatible with the requirements of modern warfare.

Professionalism is the main unity and motivating force in the military. It helped keep the armed forces from falling apart under the terrible strains of the Cultural Revolution in the 1960s and 70s and the Beijing crisis in 1989, when troops crushed pro-democracy demonstrators.

Although subjected to political assaults after that crisis, professional officers have reasserted their primacy and have reasserted the army on a single-minded course of modernization. The desire to stick to this course will define the prime interests of the military in the succession period.

This has a number of implications. Commanders will prefer to keep the army out of political struggles, although top military leaders will doubtless be pivotal participants in the maneuvering that will lead to consolidation of a new Chinese leadership. They will support the group that is most sympathetic to the aims of continuous military modernization, a strong defense posture, minimal political interference in military affairs and a concern for the material welfare of the armed forces. If the army does get drawn into a succession struggle, its professionalism will greatly reduce the danger of internal splits along political lines.

A third conditioning factor is that the army has not been inclined to intervene in politics. This may seem a strange statement, given the army's prolonged intervention during the Cultural Revolution, and its short but shattering intervention in the 1989 crisis. But an essential distinction must be drawn between the leaders of the army and its forces. Chinese military leaders have always been prime players in politics. But Chinese military forces have never moved en masse into the political arena on their own initiative. When they did, it was because political leaders brought them in for reasons that had nothing to do with promoting military interests.

This leads to the fourth factor: the costs of intervention. In both cases of intervention, the consequences — political and military — were catastrophic. Commanders will surely consider this if the question of purely lining the army into politics arises.

Intervention in the Cultural Revolution resulted in unit rivalries, personal animosities and factional infighting that divided the army for years. The military price was protracted neglect of routine tasks, which did untold damage to the army's combat capabilities. The outcome: When the Maoist period ended, the Chinese armed forces lagged at least 20 years behind modern armies.

Military modernization had to start from an appallingly low point, the main drag on progress in the dozen years of modernization under Mr. Deng. The Beijing crackdown and the subsequent political assault on the professional military further slowed modernization. The intervention led to a freezing of military ties with the United States, China's chief potential source of military technology.

The fifth factor derives from the very fact that the Chinese leadership is on the verge of momentous change. Veteran revolutionary leaders, in power since the early days of the Communist movement, will shortly pass from the scene. This will bring to an end a phenomenon particular to Chinese politics: the close integration of political and military leaders at the apex of the ruling hierarchy. This closeness blurred institutional boundaries and turned both political and military leaders into "military politicians."

The political successors of the old generation will not have the personal stature to use the army for their own political purposes. And military commanders will not be able to intervene in politics as their predecessors did. There will thus be two distinct categories of leaders: political and military. The army will no longer be automatically involved in politics; and political meddling by the military's top leadership levels will no longer be a natural part of politics.

Given the record of the Chinese army, this much can be said: Its behavior will be determined first by developments in the political arena. The army will respond to these, not initiate them. Its commanders' response will be to try to keep the armed forces out of politics. Whether they succeed will depend on how quickly the succession issue is settled.

The writer, professor of Chinese studies at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, is a longtime observer of the Chinese military and author of "The Chinese Army After Mao." He contributed this comment to the International Herald Tribune.

Abortion Wars: Cut the Casualties

By Mario M. Cuomo

The writer, a Democrat, is governor of New York.

ALBANY, New York — The struggle over whether and in what circumstances a woman should remain a legal choice for American women seems likely to rage on for years. While people of goodwill struggle over their polarized views, what should be a vital common ground may continue to be neglected. Whatever else the adversaries of the right to abortion believe, most of them would agree that there are entirely too many abortions in America.

Of the 6 million pregnancies in the United States every year, more than half are unplanned; more than a quarter — 1.5 million — end in abortion, a rate higher than for any other industrialized Western nation.

It is here that we may find some real hope of accomplishing what most people agree is a desirable goal — reducing the rate of abortion by helping women avoid the circumstances that press them to make such a difficult choice.

It is an idea that could join people rather than tear them apart. Here are some general principles I would suggest as a starting point for such a constructive discourse.

First, we should try to teach young people their responsibility in creating and caring for human life. At the very least, young people should hear from us that they are not deficient because they choose to abstain from sexual relations until another and better time.

Today, speaking up for abstinence may sound old-fashioned, but if we don't, we run the risk of saying with our silence that we condone the alternative message of the popular culture, that sexual activity is a neces-

sary way to validate one's maturity. But we must recognize that not all young people will follow the path of restraint, so every young American who is sexually active but not yet prepared for the responsibilities of parenthood should have access to complete, intelligent information and counsel on the possible consequences of sexual activity and on the uses of contraception.

Now more than ever, responsible sex education is an appropriate part of the public school curriculum. Some of us believe the use of contraceptives is wrong. Those people have a right to that belief. That is one of the tenets of democracy: No one can be required to have an abortion or to use contraception.

But for the sake of those who believe that contraception is a better alternative than an unwanted pregnancy that ends in abortion, we should invest in better, simpler, safer contraceptive technology.

Beyond abstinence, education and contraception, another partial solution deserves attention: adoption. Some women would choose not to end a pregnancy if they could be relieved of some or all of the emotional, physical, financial and social commitments of rearing a child — commitments they feel incapable of undertaking for a lifetime. We need to re-examine the adoption alternative, not as a panacea for abortion but as one of the many ways we can create real choices for people.

Thousands of couples are eager to adopt. We should remove undue obstacles to adoption where they exist, making the process as easy as possible, consistent with prudent safeguards.

Finally, for those women who might consider an abortion because of economic extremity, we must ensure that carrying a child to term is a realistic choice. Specifically, we must make the health care needed to have and raise a healthy child as available as the care needed to receive an abortion. That is New York's policy; it should be America's.

Everyone, I hope, would agree that life beyond the womb deserves more consideration, but in this regard our work has barely begun. We are a long way from creating a society where the concern for new life does not end at the moment of birth; where an infant is not helped into a world that does not care if a baby is fed properly, housed decently, educated adequately, where the blind or disabled child is not condemned to exist rather than empowered to live. Unless we change the terms of the debate, the question of abortion rights will lock the nation in combat indefinitely.

To allow differences on this subject to postpone humane and constructive action to reduce the need for abortion and improve the lot of children would be foolish. As we have done for a decade in New York state, we must resolve as a nation to pursue every avenue that helps bring down the rate of unintended pregnancy and, therefore, the number of abortions.

It would be useful if Governor Bill Clinton and President George Bush could join in such a discussion. The New York Times.

IN OUR PAGES: 100, 75 AND 50 YEARS AGO

1892: Blow to Monarchy

PARIS — Another legend has disappeared. Don Carlos, Duke of Madrid, announces that the Prince de Valeri is no longer entrusted with his interests, and that he has no longer any representative in France. Thus the pure Legitimists, who refuse to recognize the Comte de Paris, are without leaders and without a King. It is true their numbers are so small that the change in their political life will not make much stir in the country. But it is a fresh proof of the death of Monarchical principles in France, when pretenders of their own accord give up the struggle.

1917: Crisis in Russia

PETROGRAD — Russia has just passed through ten days of the gravest political crisis since the overthrow of the Tsar in March, serious party difficulties having ensued to cause a disastrous turn of events. The situation has now been cleared up. Realiz-

ing the urgent necessity of union at a time when the country is faced with catastrophe, the parties have rallied round Mr. Kerensky, who has come through the crisis with greater power and prestige than ever.

1942: The Left Disavowed

NEW YORK — [From our New York edition:] Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt disavowed yesterday [Aug. 5] any support of the left wing of the American Labor party. "I do not wish to be controlled by an American group that, in turn, is controlled by Russia," Mrs. Roosevelt wrote to Eugene Connolly, left-wing leader. "Your 'progressive committee' has people running against candidates nominated by what I suppose you would call the right wing of the American Labor party. As you must realize I am and always have been much more in sympathy with the American Labor party as represented by what I consider is the real leadership under Mr. Luigi Antonini."



OPINION

Clear Old Words Ring True In the Multicultural Babble

By George F. Will

WASHINGTON — "France," wrote F. Scott Fitzgerald, "was a land, England was a people, but America, having about it that quality of the idea, was harder to utter."

The Gettysburg Address reverberated in 1863, and it still does, because it accorded with a deep national commitment to equality.

that all men are created equal. It is, surely, no accident that Mr. Will's book about the most potent presidential rhetoric in American history has become a best-seller in this political season.

Mr. Will's book is a journalist and historian (at Northwestern University), argues that the 15,000 people who heard Lincoln's strong tenor voice departed from the cemetery dedication ceremony "under a changed sky, into a different America."

The Civil War was begun to preserve the Union. The Gettysburg Address was the culmination of the redefinition of the war as a crusade for a "new birth of freedom."

However, the Gettysburg Address was not the sudden surprise, the solitary stroke that Mr. Will's exegesis suggests. It was the final act of a protracted process of transformation that had acquired irresistible momentum 14 months earlier.

about 35 miles (55 kilometers) south of Gettysburg, along Antietam Creek near Sharpsburg, Maryland. There a Union victory, such as it was, was sufficient to enable Lincoln to announce that the Emancipation Proclamation was coming.

In response, Lincoln, then an obscure former one-term congressman, called on the country to "readopt the Declaration of Independence."

The historian Gordon Woods, in his new book "The Radicalism of the American Revolution," demonstrates that whereas in 1760 America was a "monarchical" society in which hierarchy, patronage, servility and deference characterized social relations, by 1800 the democratic manners and mores of an egalitarian society had taken root.

Greater Serbia will be no "greater" than France, Japan, Spain, Iran and several other nation-states where nearly all the members of an ethnic group live within the same borders.

The sovereign international frontiers of the old Yugoslavia having been discarded in cavalier fashion by Europe, the Serbs are being told that the former internal boundaries of Yugoslavia are carved in granite.

The deservingly large audience that Mr. Will's book has found for its book is belying evidence that the nation's ability to appreciate the elevating rhetoric of the politics of ideas has not atrophied in the recent absence of such politics.



Too Dry Even to Waste Tears

After the Village Has Gone Dry

By Michael Dorris

LOS ANGELES — In July, in Munsha, a hamlet arranged on a plateau in southeastern Zimbabwe, I met the other side of fear. I was there to visit a health delivery project funded by Save the Children, the board of which I recently joined, but all normal questions were irrelevant. Munsha had gone dry.

MEANWHILE

could talk to a woman he recognized. She was short, wore no shoes, had wrapped her head in a colorful turban scarf, and was on her way to a funeral. A businessman, she explained in soft English, the one who ran the shop that had run out of food a week ago, had drunk a cup of bad water the day before, too thirsty to boil it first.

Munsha is in the midst of its seventh and most severe winter of drought, and the effect is brutal, dusty, too dry even for the waste of tears. If climatological forecasts hold true, it will not rain

again until November and the first crop of maize won't be ready before May at the earliest.

The drought has dealt a blow to Zimbabwe, normally an exporter of grain and possessing one of the most stable and varied economies in sub-Saharan Africa. Without huge levels of assistance, the country is likely to experience a crippling setback.

Around Munsha, the weather barred any harvest this season; only five rapidly depreciating wells remain to meet the water needs of nearly 12,000 people. Economics eliminated the grade school children's lunch program, and as a result there are daily faintings and steep declines in attendance.

The World Bank, anxious that vestiges of Zimbabwe's former inclination toward socialism be abandoned, urged the imposition of a token tuition charge for all grade levels. Equivalent to \$1 per year, this fee is a burden to the poorest families, who have responded by sending only boys to classes. Many girls, I was told, have resorted to prostitution in order to eat.

Yet in some respects Munsha is a model Shona community, the beneficiary of past foreign philanthropic attention and subsidy. There is the clinic, the woman explained. And there, those abandoned buildings? That had once been a large farm, before the cattle starved. And look at the view. Foreign aid inspectors always remark about the

way the land stretches west toward the mountains. Didn't I want to take a photograph so that I could show my family back home the beauty of this country? I didn't have a camera, but I did have a question. What will eventually happen. I asked the woman, who clearly had things to do other than talk to me. Will people leave, move to cities, join others in temporary shelters? I was thinking of the five camps Zimbabwe has established for the 300,000 Mozambicans who have fled the atrocities of civil war.

Oh no, she replied. We would never leave our land. But what if the last wells go dry and no more money is donated to dig them deeper? What if, as predicted, there will soon be no water?

Then we will die, she said evenly, her gaze focused up the hill to the sad obligation for which we had already made her late. She turned back to me, too polite a hostess to terminate our conversation without some sign on my part.

Thank you for your time, I said. Good; she took her leave by the appropriate local custom, bowing slightly from the waist, wishing me health and gently clapping her hands in the imitation of applause. She was not a bit afraid, that gentle woman of Munsha, and it was not because of false optimism or a failure to realize the gravity of her situation. She had no fear because it had been, like the food, like the water, like even the seeds once guarded for spring, long used up.

Mr. Dorris, an anthropologist and writer, contributed this comment to the Los Angeles Times.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Rights of Serbs

Regarding "Europe Can't Afford to Appear Serbia" (Opinion, Aug. 3) by William Pfaff:

Greater Serbia will be no "greater" than France, Japan, Spain, Iran and several other nation-states where nearly all the members of an ethnic group live within the same borders.

The sovereign international frontiers of the old Yugoslavia having been discarded in cavalier fashion by Europe, the Serbs are being told that the former internal boundaries of Yugoslavia are carved in granite.

The deservingly large audience that Mr. Will's book has found for its book is belying evidence that the nation's ability to appreciate the elevating rhetoric of the politics of ideas has not atrophied in the recent absence of such politics.

holocaust at the hands of the Nazis and the Croatian Ustashi in World War II. RAJU G. C. THOMAS, Milwaukee.

Root Out the Khmer Rouge

Regarding "U.S. and Asian States Would Back Curbs on Khmer Rouge" (July 27) by Michael Richardson:

The Khmer Rouge refuse to disarm, they break the Paris peace agreement and endanger the process of free elections in Cambodia. So UNTAC, the United Nations Transitional Authority for Cambodia, is going to curb this xenophobic and genocidal group by putting up a few border checkpoints?

This is what must be done: Suspend the Khmer Rouge from the Supreme National Council. Stop disarming the Hun Sen faction, restrain them and put them under UN control. Strengthen UN armaments, especially assault helicopters and personnel carriers.

If the Khmer Rouge don't capitulate, disarm and otherwise comply fully with the Paris agreement, root them out.

Unfortunately for Cambodia, military action against the Khmer Rouge is unavoidable. The longer UNTAC waits, the more lives may be lost. VANNA OM STRINKO, Bad Kreuznach, Germany.

No Papers Needed

Regarding "Should ID's be Required? Dutch Argues" (July 18):

This article would lead one to believe that, in those European countries that issue them, a national identity card is mandatory. In France, at least, having an identity card may be highly advisable but it is not mandatory for an adult French citizen to have one.

EUGENE SAKS, Brévinville, France.

Too Much, Too Soon? No

Whenever young gymnasts or teenage tennis players or ballerinas achieve fame, there is an uproar. In his article, "Gymnastics: Is It Asking Too Much, Too Soon?" (Sports, Aug. 1), Dave An-

derson calls women's gymnastics "a subtle form of child abuse" that "robs a miniature ballerina of her childhood."

The answer to Mr. Anderson's headline question is an emphatic "No," as I can attest as a former dancer who trained and danced professionally.

Dance and sport attract specific personalities to begin with: young people already determined to excel. Those who continue — and many drop out along the way — are more focused and disciplined than their "normal" peers.

I always felt happy and privileged, even with blisters and sore muscles, to have a dream to work toward, even knowing that the chances of achieving that dream were slim. At a young age, I was taught by my parents, both professionals in the arts (father a musician, mother a dancer) that excellence is acquired through pain as well as through the joy of achievement. The years in the gym, studio, tennis court or skating rink give as much satisfaction as performing before an audience.

The decision for a professional life in sports or dancing is a serious one that

must be made at an early age, because the discipline and training are so long and demanding. Those who are in it "for the fun" are not the ones we enjoy watching at the Olympics or on the stage. But the demands of training add to the quality of a young life by giving it focus and a sense of physical and mental fitness.

My own childhood was enriched by years of hard training in ballet. My reward: becoming a member of the New York City Ballet. The years of training and performing added a dimension to my life that few people, outside of other serious dancers and athletes, can understand. And everyone enjoys the results.

ELLEN SHIRE, Amsterdam.

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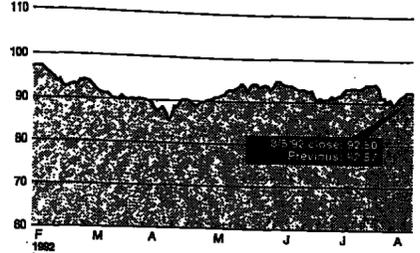
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BUSINESS



THE TRIB INDEX: 92.50

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Region	Approx. weighting	Close	Prev.	% change
Asia/Pacific	25%	75.14	74.53	+0.61
Europe	40%	103.33	100.70	+2.63
N. America	35%	100.04	100.59	-0.55



Industrial Sectors	Wtd. close	Prev. close	% change	Wtd. close	Prev. close	% change
Energy	98.30	99.20	-0.91	98.28	98.82	-0.55
Utilities	86.48	88.15	-1.67	103.26	103.28	-0.02
Finance	74.51	73.83	+0.68	99.01	99.25	-0.24
Services	99.44	99.89	-0.45	105.06	106.24	-1.20

For readers desiring more information about the International Herald Tribune World Stock Index, a booklet is available free of charge by writing to: Tib Index, 101 Avenue Charles de Gaulle, 92521 Neuilly Cedex, France.

Ruling Could Free Milken in 7 Months

By Ronald Sullivan
New York Times Staff

NEW YORK — A U.S. judge reduced Michael R. Milken's prison sentence by one-third on Wednesday, making the former junk-bond financier eligible for parole in seven months.

The reduction was regarded as a major victory for Mr. Milken, who had argued that the 10-year sentence he received in 1990 for securities fraud was unduly harsh. Moreover, he cited his subsequent cooperation with Federal prosecutors and his educational efforts in behalf of fellow inmates as other reasons for leniency.

Mr. Milken, who presided over America's biggest junk-bond empire, pleaded guilty in 1990 to six counts of securities fraud in what prosecutors described as his biggest victory arising from the Wall Street fraud and insider-trading scandals of the 1980s. He entered a Federal prison in California 17 months ago and had been eligible for parole in March 1994, which would have meant a three-year prison stay.

Judge Kimba M. Wood, who originally sentenced Mr. Milken, reduced his required stay to two years on Wednesday, making him eligible for release on March 1, 1993.

The move was viewed as vindicating prosecutors, who advised Judge Wood that Mr. Milken had "substantially aided the government in the prosecution of Alan E. Rosenblat," a former Milken protégé at Drexel who was convicted of one count of fraud in June.

But the ruling was considered a disappointment for the Securities and Exchange Commission, which had contended that Mr. Milken had not providing much useful information in the Rosenblat case.

However, Judge Wood concluded that Mr. Milken had helped both the SEC and the U.S. Attorney and thus should be rewarded.

Once released, Mr. Milken will still be required to fulfill three years of full-time community service. But he will be free to rejoin his wife and three children, some of whom are ailing.

Fed Turns Gloomy on Economy

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches
WASHINGTON — The Federal Reserve issued generally downbeat assessment Wednesday of business conditions around the United States, saying that economic activity had been uneven in recent weeks with little strength anywhere.

The Fed report found that conditions were exceptionally spotty in manufacturing and retail sales, with some parts of the country reporting strength but many others complaining of poor performance.

While the central bank has engineered interest-rate cuts that have pushed mortgage rates to their lowest point in nearly two decades, the Fed report said the latest reductions had had little impact so far on home sales, although they had spurred another round of mortgage refinancings.

The Fed report was compiled from information gathered by its 12 regional banks based on interviews conducted before July 28. It portrayed a decidedly more pessimistic view than the last survey, on June 17. That report had proclaimed that economic activity was continuing to improve throughout the nation.

Meanwhile, the chairman of the Federal Reserve, Alan Greenspan, told a Senate Banking Committee panel that the U.S. recovery was weaker than the Fed found desirable. "The economy is surely not moving in a way we consider adequate, but it is moving forward," he said.

The Fed report, called the Tan Book for the color of its cover, will be used by the central bank's top policy-makers when they next meet on Aug. 18 to review their interest-rate policies. Many economists believe that the central bank could be preparing to cut interest rates further if growing signs of weakness persist.

Since the last Tan Book, the U.S. jobless rate has jumped to an eight-year high of 7.8 percent and many economists have become concerned that the fledgling recovery could be threatening to go into another stall.

The report also noted a wide variation in consumer spending, which accounts for two-thirds of total economic activity and is thus crucial to any sustained economic pickup.

New York and Kansas City reported strong clothing sales but Minneapolis and Atlanta complained of depressed sales of big-ticket appliances. Automobile sales were weak in most districts, with the exception of Atlanta and

bank could be preparing to cut interest rates further if growing signs of weakness persist.

See FED, Page 10

Indian Costs Rise at Standard Chartered

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches
LONDON — Standard Chartered Bank PLC acknowledged Wednesday the possibility of even bigger losses in India's stock market scandal by doubling its provisions for the affair, a move that led to a 24 percent drop in first-half pretax profit.

The drop in profit, to £53.6 million (£122.3 million) from £83.2 million in the first half of 1991, surprised analysts, who had been forecasting a profit of between £75 million and £100 million.

The bank's share price tumbled 20 pence, or 4.5 percent, to 420 on the London Stock Exchange.

Standard Chartered said it set aside a general provision of £50 million for its exposure to the Indian scandal, in addition to a previously announced provision of £50 million for specific losses.

The combined amount helped boost the bank's overall provision for bad and doubtful debts to £118 million in the half, up from £105 million a year earlier.

"Right until the end of June, Standard was assuring us that the £50 million specific provision would be enough," said Nick Gough, bank analyst at County NatWest. "We're not sure how bad it could get."

The bank said that since the securities scandal broke in May, India's stock markets had not operated normally and there was uncertainty about the underlying value of some securities and investments.

"Unraveling this whole matter will be very complicated and because of the continuing uncertainty we have added £50 million to our general provision," said Chairman Rodney Galpin.

Standard Chartered has filed a suit with Indian authorities to recover £162 million it claimed to have been defrauded of in the scandal, in which funds were diverted from the government securities market for speculation on the booming Bombay stock market.

The bank said Wednesday that the case was being pursued with the support of the Reserve Bank of India, the central bank, and India's Central Bureau of Investigation.

Standard Chartered also is seeking to recover £55 million from various banks, including Citibank.

The Reserve Bank has said it will audit the securities dealings of Standard Chartered, Citibank, ANZ Grindlays and Bank of America.

Standard Chartered has said no criminal proceeding would be bought against it, but its chief executive in India, Pervesh Nat, resigned last month, saying he had a "moral responsibility" for the bank's involvement in the scandal.

The bank said its first-half results represented an underlying improvement in business in the Asia-Pacific region. But it said it was hurt by a weaker dollar and poor operating conditions in India, where it had an operating loss of £18 million.

"We intend to develop our retail business further in the Asia-Pacific region and in some other carefully selected markets," the bank said, adding that it intends to expand its priority banking and offshore banking services.

The bank left its interim dividend unchanged at 7 pence a share, as expected.

(Bloomberg, AFX, Reuters)

Now Fujitsu Is Stumbling

By Steven Brill
International Herald Tribune

TOKYO — Fujitsu Ltd., Japan's biggest computer maker, said Wednesday it expected to post an unprecedented group loss for the first half of this year, the latest sign of how the recession and technological change are throwing a pillar of Japan Inc. off balance.

Although Fujitsu is not the only high-technology company in Japan to be struggling — Sony Corp. had a loss last year and NEC Corp.'s earnings plunged — analysts said Fujitsu's position was more vulnerable because it was the most exposed to depressed markets for semiconductors and mainframe computers. The company, they added, had been slow to rationalize and restructure its operations to cope with a new generation of technology being driven by entrepreneurial American concerns.

"All the high-tech companies have yet to come to grips with the changes in technology and the slowdown in the domestic economy, which is still the primary source of their demand," said Peter Wolff, vice president of Kidder, Peabody in Tokyo.

A Fujitsu spokesman said the company expected to post a consolidated net loss of about 10 billion yen (\$79 billion) in the six months to Sept. 30, the first shortfall since being listed in 1949. The company has not changed its forecast of a group net profit of 40 billion yen for the full-year through March 1993, he

said, noting that sales tend to rise by about 10 percent in the second half.

Analysts were less optimistic, saying profit could be half as much. A year ago, the company had group net profit of 10.3 billion yen in the first half and 12.2 billion for the full year.

The spokesman attributed the expected first-half loss to the downturn in the semiconductor market, a slump that is coinciding with heavy investments in new memory chip factories in Durham, England, and Gresham, Oregon. Nearly half of Fujitsu's capital investment was earmarked for microchips, he said, adding that last year's total spending of 357 billion yen would fall to below 300 billion this year.

The loss came as little surprise to analysts, who have been revising downward their projections for most Japanese electronics companies, but it pushed Fujitsu's share price down 13 yen, to 575 yen. In contrast, the Tokyo stock market's main Nikkei average rose 291.05 points, to 15,983.64.

Although losses in the semiconductor field were significant, analysts said Fujitsu's larger problem is with computers. Slightly more than half the company's group sales are in mainframe-related equipment, where prices have plunged 40 percent to 50 percent over the last 18 months. Mainframes, the giant number-crunchers used

management's myriad detractors, but it also would save BP piles of cash. Cutting the dividend in half for the rest of the year would save £325 million.

Some analysts also predict that BP will announce write-offs as high as £1 billion.

Potential candidates are rich. Simply by writing down the value of some of the assets BP purchased in its expansionist heyday in the late 1980s — like Standard Oil of Ohio and Britoil — could total hundreds of millions of pounds. Plant closures and staff layoffs could add massively to those totals.

"Management is under tremendous pressure to take a hit that could total several hundred million

See BP, Page 11

INTERNATIONAL MANAGER

Link to American Sect Sours Atmosphere at Lindt

By Mitya New
Reuters

ZURICH — The Swiss chocolate maker Lindt & Sprüngli AG grew from a one-room family business, and now a series of events involving the family life of the company's chairman has led to Wednesday's resignation of the chief executive, Ulrich Geissmann.

Mr. Geissmann quit two days after Rudolph Sprüngli, 72, fifth-generation owner of the company, announced that he had married Alexandra Gantenbein, a woman 28 years his junior and an occasional member of the United States-based "I Am" movement. Press reports said Ms. Gantenbein was responsible for a string of surprise staff appointments by Mr. Sprüngli.

The theological "I Am" movement, founded by an American engineer in the 1930s, promotes the self-realization of individual potential. Ms. Gantenbein reportedly had offered to pray for those in need of help in return for financial contributions.

Mr. Sprüngli originally announced his wedding earlier this year but then canceled it at short notice in May after the news led to an outcry.

Lindt & Sprüngli shares slipped 100 Swiss francs (\$75.66) in Zurich, to a 1992 low of 10,900 francs.

The company, which grew from a sweetshop in Zurich that the Sprüngli family bought in 1836, said Mr. Geissmann, who had been vice chairman of the board and chief executive officer since 1991, departed by mutual agreement.

A Lindt & Sprüngli spokesman said Ms. Gantenbein had never held any official capacity in the company and was only Mr. Sprüngli's personal adviser. An independent accountants' report, commissioned by the board to investigate whether the firm had been infiltrated by the "I Am" movement, gave the company a clean bill of health, but said Ms. Gantenbein had gained influence in the appointment of top managers.

The Sprüngli family holds a comfortable majority of Lindt & Sprüngli shares. In Kilchberg, Switzerland, the company said consolidated earnings in the seven months through July were substantially better than in the same period a year earlier, without giving figures. AFP-Exel News reported.

BP Pressed to Account for Its Woes

By Erik Ipsen
International Herald Tribune

LONDON — For British Petroleum Co., the ousting six weeks ago of its chairman and chief executive, Robert B. Horton, was only a first step. Oil analysts expect the company to discard Mr. Horton's expansionist legacy on Thursday at a cost of its first dividend cut in decades, or perhaps write-offs that could total as much as £1 billion (\$1.9 billion).

Analysts said Mr. Horton's successor, David A. Simon, is under great pressure to use Thursday's first-half report to boldly define a new future for the company.

"If his statement does not nail the lid firmly shut on the past while spelling out a new direction, then the company's people will buy British Gas or Shell instead," said Julian Lamont of Credit Lyonnais in London.

The expectations are all a measure of how low BP has sunk, and how desperate for cash it is. With a debt-to-capital ratio of 80 percent, versus 7 percent for Royal Dutch/Shell, which also reports its second-quarter figures Thursday, BP has been hit hard by the sluggishness in oil prices in recent years and the prospect of more to come.

Predictions of the company's response range from a sharp cut in the dividend, to a breakup like the recent example of Imperial Chemical Industries PLC, to a merger of the whole lot with Chevron, to write-offs totaling £1 billion.

Not only would a cut appease

CURRENCY & INTEREST RATES

Cross Rates									
	\$	£	D.M.	F.F.	L.F.	D.F.	S.F.	Yen	Other
American	1.00	0.75	1.93	1.66	1.36	1.36	1.36	100.00	1.00
British	1.33	1.00	2.56	2.19	1.81	1.81	1.81	125.00	1.00
French	0.65	0.49	1.00	0.84	0.70	0.70	0.70	100.00	1.00
German	0.52	0.39	1.19	1.00	0.84	0.84	0.84	100.00	1.00
Italian	0.37	0.28	0.80	0.69	1.00	1.00	1.00	100.00	1.00
Netherlands	1.78	1.34	2.36	2.00	1.66	1.66	1.66	100.00	1.00
New York	1.00	0.75	1.93	1.66	1.36	1.36	1.36	100.00	1.00
Paris	0.65	0.49	1.00	0.84	0.70	0.70	0.70	100.00	1.00
Tokyo	1.00	0.75	1.93	1.66	1.36	1.36	1.36	100.00	1.00
Zurich	1.33	1.00	2.56	2.19	1.81	1.81	1.81	125.00	1.00

Eurocurrency Deposits									
	Dollar	D-Mark	Swiss	Sterling	French	Yen	ECU		
1 month	3 1/2-3 3/4	3 1/2-3 3/4	3 1/2-3 3/4	3 1/2-3 3/4	3 1/2-3 3/4	3 1/2-3 3/4	3 1/2-3 3/4	10 1/2-11	10 1/2-11
3 months	3 1/2-3 3/4	3 1/2-3 3/4	3 1/2-3 3/4	3 1/2-3 3/4	3 1/2-3 3/4	3 1/2-3 3/4	3 1/2-3 3/4	10 1/2-11	10 1/2-11
6 months	3 1/2-3 3/4	3 1/2-3 3/4	3 1/2-3 3/4	3 1/2-3 3/4	3 1/2-3 3/4	3 1/2-3 3/4	3 1/2-3 3/4	10 1/2-11	10 1/2-11
1 year	3 1/2-3 3/4	3 1/2-3 3/4	3 1/2-3 3/4	3 1/2-3 3/4	3 1/2-3 3/4	3 1/2-3 3/4	3 1/2-3 3/4	10 1/2-11	10 1/2-11

Key Money Rates									
	United States	Close	Prev.	1-month	3-month	6-month	1-year	10-year	30-year
Discount rate	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00
Federal funds	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4
90-day T-bill	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4
1-year Treasury bill	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4
2-year Treasury bill	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4
3-year Treasury bill	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4
5-year Treasury bill	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4
10-year Treasury bill	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4
30-year Treasury bill	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4
10-year Treasury note	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4
20-year Treasury note	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4
30-year Treasury note	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4
10-year Treasury bond	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4
20-year Treasury bond	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4
30-year Treasury bond	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4
10-year Treasury Inflation Protected Security	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4
20-year Treasury Inflation Protected Security	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4
30-year Treasury Inflation Protected Security	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4

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The Port of Long Beach is soliciting proposals for the operation and/or sale of the R.M.S. Queen Mary.

To request a copy of the proposal requirements contact:

Executive Director
Port of Long Beach
P.O. Box 570
Long Beach, CA 90801
(310) 590 4162

All proposals are due by 4:30 p.m. (PDT), August 24, 1992.

THE PORT OF LONG BEACH

MARKET DIARY

French Poll Sends Pound to New Low

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches
LONDON — The pound slid Wednesday to its lowest level since Britain joined the European Monetary System's exchange-rate mechanism in October 1990.

Recent appeals by leading industrialists for a devaluation of the pound also continued to affect the currency, analysts said.

"The clamor in the press from various industrial leaders does not mean the authorities will devalue, but it does develop awareness that it could happen," said Paul Lambert, an analyst at UBS/Phillips & Drew. The government, he said, was "in a corner."

Foreign Exchange

tion of a poll on how the French intend to vote in the Sept. 20 referendum on the Maastricht treaty. Against the Portuguese escudo, the strongest currency in the ERM, the pound again broke through the 241.545 floor of its permitted trading band several times during the day, ending at around 241.260 escudos. Dealers said the drop triggered rounds of intervention by the Portuguese central bank and the Bank of England to support the pound.

The British currency also slid against the dollar, to \$1.9160 from \$1.9255. Traders first welcomed the results of the BVA-Paris Match poll, which showed 56 percent of those surveyed were in favor of the treaty and 44 percent were opposed. But later, sentiment changed as traders said the poll was taken from a sample that was too small and not representative.

Julian Callow, an analyst at Chase Manhattan Bank, said the possibility of an increase in British interest rates could not be ruled out if French polls show growing opposition to the treaty.

The dollar, meanwhile, strengthened as investors bought back oversold positions. Activity was light ahead of Thursday's Bundesbank central council meeting and Friday's report on U.S. employment.

At the close in New York, the dollar was trading at 1.4815 DM, up from 1.4772 late Tuesday, and at 127.57 yen, up from 127.25.

It rose to 1.3295 Swiss francs from 1.3240 and to 5.0055 French francs from 4.9905. The pound slid to \$1.9170 from \$1.9190.

In London earlier, the U.S. currency was trading at 1.4765 DM, up slightly from 1.4745 late Tuesday, and at 127.34 yen, up from 127.15. (A.F.X. Reuters, Bloomberg)

FED: Study Finds Gaps in Economy

(Continued from first finance page) Dallas, where good gains were reported.

Even more troubling, Cleveland, Kansas City, Dallas and Richmond, Virginia, said lower interest rates were failing to spur increased home buying, with real estate agents in some parts of the country complaining that worries about jobs were holding down sales.

In one bright note, the Fed said

brought down long-term interest rates as participants in the bond market still view the federal budget deficits as too high and a threat to increase inflation six to 10 years down the road, he said.

The Treasury said it would sell \$36 billion in notes and bonds during next week's quarterly refunding, to raise \$15.23 billion in new cash. Outstanding bonds, which were up as much as 3/8 point on hopes of a reduced auction, retreated on the news and closed unchanged.

The weak Federal Reserve report depressed stock prices. The Dow Jones industrial average was down 18.91 points at 3,365.41, according to an early tally.

IBM accounted for about one-fourth of the index's decline, falling 2 1/2 to 91 1/2 after the company gave a 2% revenue projection and an analyst at Smith Barney, Harris Upham cut his rating to "hold" from "buy."

N.Y. Stocks

conditions on the farm had improved slightly. The Richmond, Chicago, St. Louis and Kansas districts all said that recent rains had brought relief to drought-stressed crops.

However, even here conditions were mixed. The Chicago district said that wheat crops had been hurt by too much rain and Minneapolis and Kansas City reported that hail and unseasonably cool weather had harmed some crops.

In his testimony before the Senate Banking panel, Mr. Greenspan said the large U.S. budget deficits were keeping long-term interest rates high despite the prevailing view that inflation was well contained.

"There is a general recognition that inflation in the short run is contained," he said. This view, however, has not

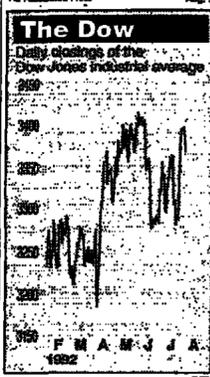


Table titled 'NYSE Most Actives' listing top trading stocks like IBM, J.P. Morgan, and General Electric with their volume, high, low, and change.

Table titled 'AMEX Most Actives' listing active stocks on the American Stock Exchange like Goldcorp and Intel.

Table titled 'NYSE Diary' showing advanced, declined, unchanged, and new high/low stock counts.

Table titled 'Amex Diary' showing advanced, declined, unchanged, and new high/low stock counts for the Amex.

Table titled 'NASDAQ Diary' showing advanced, declined, unchanged, and new high/low stock counts for NASDAQ.

Table titled 'Dow Jones Averages' showing indices for Industrials, Transp., Finance, and Commodities.

Table titled 'Standard & Poor's Indexes' showing various market indices like S&P 500, Industrial, and Finance.

Table titled 'NYSE Indexes' showing Composite, Industrial, and Finance indices.

Table titled 'NASDAQ Indexes' showing Composite, Industrial, and Finance indices.

Table titled 'AMEX Stock Index' showing High, Low, and Change for the Amex index.

Table titled 'Dow Jones Bond Averages' showing 30 Bonds, 10 Utilities, and 10 Industrials.

Table titled 'Market Sales' showing NYSE 4 a.m. volume, NYSE prev. close, and Amex 4 a.m. volume.

Table titled 'N.Y.S.E. Odd-Lot Trading' showing buy and sell volumes for various months.

Table titled 'EUROPEAN FUTURES' showing contracts for various European markets like London, Frankfurt, and Zurich.

Table titled 'Food' showing futures for wheat, corn, and soybeans.

Table titled 'Metals' showing futures for aluminum, copper, and zinc.

Table titled 'Stock Indexes' showing various stock market indices.

Table titled 'Dividends' showing dividend information for various companies.

Table titled 'Financial' showing various financial metrics and ratios.

Table titled 'S&P 100 Index Options' showing call and put options for the S&P 100.

Table titled 'U.S. FUTURES' showing various U.S. futures contracts.

Oil Prices Fall, Output Rises

NEW YORK — Oil prices fell again Wednesday, as new estimates showed that OPEC's production last month was well over its target.

On the New York Mercantile Exchange, crude oil for September delivery fell 17 cents per barrel, to \$21.88.

The International Energy Agency said five members of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries had raised production last month, pushing the cartel more than half a million barrels over its 23.4 million barrel-a-day output ceiling.

Some analysts predicted that demand would increase as winter approached, while others warned that supplies could grow more if refiners continued to reduce their purchases by closing plants for maintenance. (Bloomberg, AP)

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

Large table listing stock market data for various international markets including Amsterdam, Brussels, Frankfurt, London, Milan, Montreal, Sao Paulo, Singapore, Stockholm, Toronto, Zurich, and Tokyo.

U.S. FUTURES

Table listing various U.S. futures contracts including Grains, Metals, Livestock, and Food.

U.S. FUTURES

Table listing various U.S. futures contracts including Grains, Metals, Livestock, and Food.

Clorox to Take \$32 Million Charge

OAKLAND, California (Bloomberg) — Clorox Co. stock fell about 65 percent Wednesday after the household-products company said it would take a pretax charge of about \$32 million in the fourth quarter on write-downs of assets related to its bottled-water, Kingsford and food-service businesses.

C. Craig Sullivan, who was named chairman and chief executive officer in May, told a group of analysts that the company was reviewing all of its businesses. Clorox shares were down \$3.375 at \$44.875 in late trading. One analyst said the drop reflected disappointment that Mr. Sullivan was not more specific.

Mr. Sullivan said that fourth-quarter profit would be below "consensus" estimates in the range of 80 cents a share to 85 cents a share. The company expects to release its year-end results next week.

U.S. Business Failures Near Record

NEW YORK (AP) — Business failures increased nearly 17 percent in the first half of 1992 and are likely to shatter the record set in 1991, Dun & Bradstreet Corp. said Wednesday.

Failures reached 30,582 in the January-to-June period, against 43,324 in the first half of 1991, the leading U.S. provider of business information said in a survey.

"As the recession continues to take its toll across the U.S., business failures continue to climb above the record high levels reported last year," said Joseph W. Dunne, Dun & Bradstreet's corporate economist. The 1991 record was 87,266. In the latest survey, every industry group except mining reported increases. The steepest was in the agriculture, forestry and fishing sector, up 33.2 percent.

Illinois Power Drops on Rate Cut

CHICAGO (Reuters) — Illinois Power Co. stock fell sharply in anticipation of a formal Illinois Commerce Commission ruling that would reduce rates and could result in a \$200 million write-off by the company, analysts said.

Illinois Power was trading at \$20.375, off \$4.675. "This action, if formally approved, would have substantial negative effects on the financial health of Illinois Power Co.," the utility said.

GM Units Report Earnings Increase

DETROIT (Bloomberg) — General Motors Corp.'s three nonautomotive subsidiaries on Wednesday posted combined second-quarter profits of \$608.6 million before a previously announced \$749.4 million restructuring charge at GM Hughes Electronics Corp.

Combined profits among GMHE, General Motors Acceptance Corp. and Electronic Data Systems Corp. rose 13.2 percent, from \$537.7 million in the same quarter a year earlier.

Reflecting the \$749.4 million restructuring charge by GMHE's Hughes Aircraft Co. subsidiary, the three GM units posted a combined net loss of \$140.8 million.

AT&T Claims Disk Breakthrough

NEW YORK (AP) — Bell Labs and Telesearchers have demonstrated a new technique that could multiply the storage capacity of computer memory disks 100 times, American Telephone & Telegraph Co. said Wednesday.

The technique involves concentrating a laser through a probe made from an aluminum-coated optical fiber.

For the Record

About 1,000 banks with total assets of \$600 billion are on a problem list, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. chairman, William Taylor, told the Senate Banking Committee.

A Chicago Mercantile Exchange membership sold for \$377,000 Wednesday, marking the third consecutive record sale. (Bloomberg)

Pan American World Airways, once the leading U.S. overseas carrier, went on the auction block in 5,214 separate pieces in Miami. On sale are such items as pumps, hoists, gauges, scopes, computer monitors, reservations terminals, office equipment and a fleet of trucks. (UPI)

Handwritten note: 'The Dow' with a checkmark.

NYSE

Wednesday's Closing
Tables include the nationwide prices up to the closing on Wall Street and do not reflect late trades elsewhere. Via The Associated Press

Stock	High	Low	Open	Close	Change
IBM	115 1/4	115 1/8	115 1/8	115 1/4	+ 1/8
Microsoft	68 1/4	68 1/8	68 1/8	68 1/4	+ 1/8
Apple	54 1/4	54 1/8	54 1/8	54 1/4	+ 1/8
Oracle	48 1/4	48 1/8	48 1/8	48 1/4	+ 1/8
Novell	42 1/4	42 1/8	42 1/8	42 1/4	+ 1/8
Lotus	38 1/4	38 1/8	38 1/8	38 1/4	+ 1/8
McAfee	34 1/4	34 1/8	34 1/8	34 1/4	+ 1/8
Intuit	30 1/4	30 1/8	30 1/8	30 1/4	+ 1/8
Visa	26 1/4	26 1/8	26 1/8	26 1/4	+ 1/8
MasterCard	22 1/4	22 1/8	22 1/8	22 1/4	+ 1/8
Amex	18 1/4	18 1/8	18 1/8	18 1/4	+ 1/8
Discover	14 1/4	14 1/8	14 1/8	14 1/4	+ 1/8
Bank of America	10 1/4	10 1/8	10 1/8	10 1/4	+ 1/8
Wells Fargo	8 1/4	8 1/8	8 1/8	8 1/4	+ 1/8
Citigroup	6 1/4	6 1/8	6 1/8	6 1/4	+ 1/8
JPMorgan	4 1/4	4 1/8	4 1/8	4 1/4	+ 1/8
Goldman Sachs	2 1/4	2 1/8	2 1/8	2 1/4	+ 1/8
JP Morgan Chase	1 1/4	1 1/8	1 1/8	1 1/4	+ 1/8

Stock	High	Low	Open	Close	Change
AT&T	48 1/4	48 1/8	48 1/8	48 1/4	+ 1/8
Verizon	42 1/4	42 1/8	42 1/8	42 1/4	+ 1/8
Sprint	36 1/4	36 1/8	36 1/8	36 1/4	+ 1/8
WorldCom	30 1/4	30 1/8	30 1/8	30 1/4	+ 1/8
Qwest	24 1/4	24 1/8	24 1/8	24 1/4	+ 1/8
Southwest	18 1/4	18 1/8	18 1/8	18 1/4	+ 1/8
Delta	12 1/4	12 1/8	12 1/8	12 1/4	+ 1/8
American	8 1/4	8 1/8	8 1/8	8 1/4	+ 1/8
United	6 1/4	6 1/8	6 1/8	6 1/4	+ 1/8
Northwest	4 1/4	4 1/8	4 1/8	4 1/4	+ 1/8
Allegiant	2 1/4	2 1/8	2 1/8	2 1/4	+ 1/8
JetBlue	1 1/4	1 1/8	1 1/8	1 1/4	+ 1/8
Southwest	1 1/4	1 1/8	1 1/8	1 1/4	+ 1/8
Delta	1 1/4	1 1/8	1 1/8	1 1/4	+ 1/8
American	1 1/4	1 1/8	1 1/8	1 1/4	+ 1/8
United	1 1/4	1 1/8	1 1/8	1 1/4	+ 1/8
Northwest	1 1/4	1 1/8	1 1/8	1 1/4	+ 1/8
Allegiant	1 1/4	1 1/8	1 1/8	1 1/4	+ 1/8
JetBlue	1 1/4	1 1/8	1 1/8	1 1/4	+ 1/8

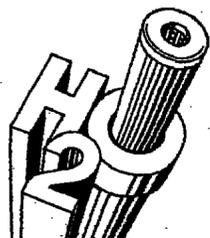
Stock	High	Low	Open	Close	Change
Boeing	110 1/4	110 1/8	110 1/8	110 1/4	+ 1/8
Lockheed	95 1/4	95 1/8	95 1/8	95 1/4	+ 1/8
Northrop	80 1/4	80 1/8	80 1/8	80 1/4	+ 1/8
Raytheon	65 1/4	65 1/8	65 1/8	65 1/4	+ 1/8
General Dynamics	50 1/4	50 1/8	50 1/8	50 1/4	+ 1/8
Grumman	35 1/4	35 1/8	35 1/8	35 1/4	+ 1/8
Boeing	110 1/4	110 1/8	110 1/8	110 1/4	+ 1/8
Lockheed	95 1/4	95 1/8	95 1/8	95 1/4	+ 1/8
Northrop	80 1/4	80 1/8	80 1/8	80 1/4	+ 1/8
Raytheon	65 1/4	65 1/8	65 1/8	65 1/4	+ 1/8
General Dynamics	50 1/4	50 1/8	50 1/8	50 1/4	+ 1/8
Grumman	35 1/4	35 1/8	35 1/8	35 1/4	+ 1/8

Stock	High	Low	Open	Close	Change
3M	115 1/4	115 1/8	115 1/8	115 1/4	+ 1/8
Eastman	100 1/4	100 1/8	100 1/8	100 1/4	+ 1/8
Amgen	85 1/4	85 1/8	85 1/8	85 1/4	+ 1/8
Genentech	70 1/4	70 1/8	70 1/8	70 1/4	+ 1/8
Novartis	55 1/4	55 1/8	55 1/8	55 1/4	+ 1/8
Roche	40 1/4	40 1/8	40 1/8	40 1/4	+ 1/8
Novartis	55 1/4	55 1/8	55 1/8	55 1/4	+ 1/8
Roche	40 1/4	40 1/8	40 1/8	40 1/4	+ 1/8
Novartis	55 1/4	55 1/8	55 1/8	55 1/4	+ 1/8
Roche	40 1/4	40 1/8	40 1/8	40 1/4	+ 1/8

Stock	High	Low	Open	Close	Change
Merck	115 1/4	115 1/8	115 1/8	115 1/4	+ 1/8
Pfizer	100 1/4	100 1/8	100 1/8	100 1/4	+ 1/8
Abbott	85 1/4	85 1/8	85 1/8	85 1/4	+ 1/8
Amgen	70 1/4	70 1/8	70 1/8	70 1/4	+ 1/8
Genentech	55 1/4	55 1/8	55 1/8	55 1/4	+ 1/8
Novartis	40 1/4	40 1/8	40 1/8	40 1/4	+ 1/8
Roche	25 1/4	25 1/8	25 1/8	25 1/4	+ 1/8
Novartis	55 1/4	55 1/8	55 1/8	55 1/4	+ 1/8
Roche	40 1/4	40 1/8	40 1/8	40 1/4	+ 1/8

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(Continued on next page)

NYSE High-Lows

NEW HIGHS 87	NEW LOWS 31
Alcoa	Alcoa
Amgen	Amgen
Boeing	Boeing
Eastman	Eastman
Genentech	Genentech
Novartis	Novartis
Pfizer	Pfizer
Roche	Roche
Verizon	Verizon
WorldCom	WorldCom
Amgen	Amgen
Boeing	Boeing
Eastman	Eastman
Genentech	Genentech
Novartis	Novartis
Pfizer	Pfizer
Roche	Roche
Verizon	Verizon
WorldCom	WorldCom

AMEX High-Lows

NEW HIGHS 25	NEW LOWS 7
AIMM	AIMM
Comcast	Comcast
Eastman	Eastman
Genentech	Genentech
Novartis	Novartis
Pfizer	Pfizer
Roche	Roche
Verizon	Verizon
WorldCom	WorldCom
Amgen	Amgen
Boeing	Boeing
Eastman	Eastman
Genentech	Genentech
Novartis	Novartis
Pfizer	Pfizer
Roche	Roche
Verizon	Verizon
WorldCom	WorldCom

Company Res...

France

NYSE
Wednesday's Closing

سكدا من الالمن

AMEX

Wednesday's Closing

Tables include the nationwide prices up to the closing on Wall Street and do not reflect late trades elsewhere. Via The Associated Press

High	Low	Open	Close	High	Low	Open	Close
100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00	100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00
100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00	100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00
100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00	100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00

High	Low	Open	Close	High	Low	Open	Close
100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00	100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00
100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00	100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00
100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00	100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00

High	Low	Open	Close	High	Low	Open	Close
100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00	100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00
100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00	100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00
100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00	100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00

High	Low	Open	Close	High	Low	Open	Close
100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00	100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00
100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00	100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00
100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00	100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00

High	Low	Open	Close	High	Low	Open	Close
100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00	100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00
100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00	100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00
100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00	100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00

High	Low	Open	Close	High	Low	Open	Close
100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00	100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00
100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00	100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00
100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00	100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00

High	Low	Open	Close	High	Low	Open	Close
100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00	100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00
100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00	100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00
100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00	100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00

High	Low	Open	Close	High	Low	Open	Close
100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00	100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00
100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00	100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00
100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00	100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00

High	Low	Open	Close	High	Low	Open	Close
100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00	100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00
100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00	100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00
100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00	100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00

High	Low	Open	Close	High	Low	Open	Close
100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00	100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00
100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00	100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00
100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00	100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00

High	Low	Open	Close	High	Low	Open	Close
100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00	100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00
100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00	100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00
100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00	100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00

High	Low	Open	Close	High	Low	Open	Close
100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00	100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00
100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00	100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00
100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00	100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00

NASDAQ

Wednesday's Prices

NASDAQ prices as of 4 p.m. New York time. This list compiled by the AP, covering the 1,000 most traded securities of dollar value. It is updated twice a year.

High	Low	Open	Close	High	Low	Open	Close
100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00	100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00
100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00	100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00
100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00	100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00

High	Low	Open	Close	High	Low	Open	Close
100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00	100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00
100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00	100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00
100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00	100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00

High	Low	Open	Close	High	Low	Open	Close
100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00	100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00
100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00	100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00
100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00	100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00

High	Low	Open	Close	High	Low	Open	Close
100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00	100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00
100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00	100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00
100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00	100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00

High	Low	Open	Close	High	Low	Open	Close
100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00	100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00
100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00	100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00
100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00	100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00

High	Low	Open	Close	High	Low	Open	Close
100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00	100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00
100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00	100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00
100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00	100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00

High	Low	Open	Close	High	Low	Open	Close
100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00	100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00
100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00	100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00
100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00	100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00

High	Low	Open	Close	High	Low	Open	Close
100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00	100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00
100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00	100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00
100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00	100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00

High	Low	Open	Close	High	Low	Open	Close
100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00	100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00
100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00	100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00
100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00	100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00

High	Low	Open	Close	High	Low	Open	Close
100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00	100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00
100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00	100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00
100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00	100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00

High	Low	Open	Close	High	Low	Open	Close
100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00	100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00
100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00	100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00
100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00	100.00	98.00	99.00	99.00

High	Low	Open	Close	High	Low	Open	Close
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SIDELINES

Teagle Leaves NBA for Benetton

TREVISIO, Italy (AP) — Benetton Treviso, the Italian basketball league champion, has signed the American forward Terry Teagle for the coming season.

Club officials said Wednesday that Teagle, 32, a National Basketball Association veteran with the Houston Rockets, Detroit Pistons, Golden State Warriors and Los Angeles Lakers, would replace Jimmy Del Negro, who will join the NBA's San Antonio Spurs after two seasons with Benetton. Teagle signed a one-year contract, reportedly worth \$800,000 with Benetton, where he will team with the Croatian star Toni Kukoc.

Lineker Transfer to Japan Delayed

LONDON (AP) — The transfer of the former England striker Gary Lineker to the Japanese soccer club Grampus Eight has been put off until March.

Lineker, 31, who played in Grampus Eight's exhibition against a Brazilian team on Saturday, said Wednesday that the start of the Japanese season had been delayed.

Fraud Case 'No Threat,' Rockies Say

NEW YORK (NYT) — The Colorado Rockies said that the withdrawal of Michael I. Monus and his father, Nathan, as owners of the new major-league baseball franchise in Denver would not affect the club's plans to begin playing next year.

Michael Monus withdrew as an owner Monday after charges that he and another senior executive had embezzled funds and falsified profits at Pharm-Mor Inc., a drugstore chain based in Youngstown, Ohio, that he helped found. He and his father and three other general partners had put up \$26 million of the Rockies' \$95 million franchise fee. Much of the rest came from eight limited partners.

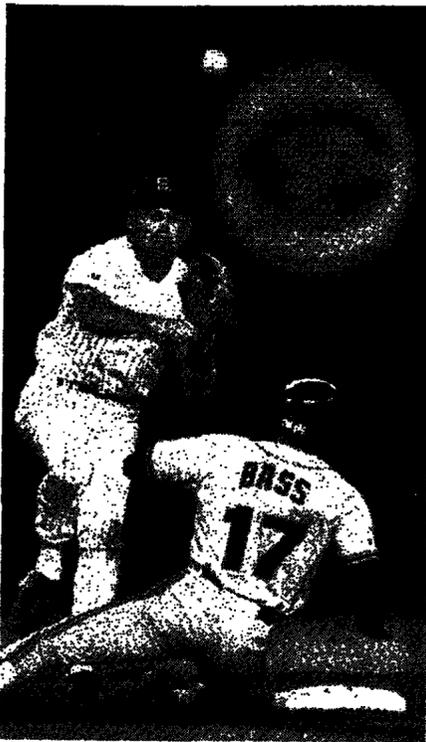
"It just happens that one of our former partners is in a jam," said Michael Swanson, a Rockies spokesman. "But it is no threat to the organization."

For the Record

CNN, the international cable news network, is to broadcast a weekly program previewing National Football League games on Sundays beginning Aug. 16. (IHT)

Olympique Marseille, the French soccer champion, has signed the Spanish international midfielder Rafael Marin Vazquez, 26, from Torino for \$3 million (€4 million), club officials said Wednesday. (Reuters)

The International Boxing Federation on Tuesday ordered its middleweight champion Gianfranco Rosi of Italy, to give Gilbert Dela Jr. of France a rematch of their title fight within 90 days. Rosi won a controversial split decision over Dela on July 11 in Monaco. (AP)



San Diego's Kurt Stillwell turning the double play as Kevin Bass of the Giants slides late into second base. San Francisco won, 7-1.

Pendleton Misses His Walk to Lift Braves

The Associated Press

Terry Pendleton didn't expect to bat in the bottom of the ninth inning. What he expected was an intentional walk.

Pendleton hit a two-run homer with two outs in the ninth to give the Atlanta Braves a 7-5 victory over the visiting Cincinnati Reds on Tuesday night and a 1½-game lead in the National League West.

Otis Nixon walked with two outs in the ninth off the Reds relief ace Norm Charlton and stole second. Everyone in the park, including Pendleton, then expected manager Lou Piniella to call for an intentional walk. After all, Ron Gant, the on-deck batter, was hitting only .162 over his previous 12 games.

"To a certain extent I was surprised," said Pendleton, who is hitting .390 over the last nine games. "I personally wouldn't have wanted to pitch to me."

Pendleton hit a home run deep over the left-field fence, his 15th.

Atlanta tied it at 5-all in the eighth, scoring three runs off Charlton, keyed by third baseman Chris Sabo's throwing error and capped by Greg Olson's sacrifice fly.

Pirates 3, Mets 2: In Pittsburgh, Alex Cole grounded a single through a drawn-in infield with one out in the 12th to lift Pittsburgh over New York and extend its winning streak to five games.

The Pirates now lead second-place Montreal by 2½ games.

Cubs 8, Expos 6: Mark Grace hit a two-run single to snap an eight-inning tie as Chicago triumphed in Montreal.

Grace, who doubled home a run earlier in the game, hit a 3-2 pitch

from Bill Sampen with two outs and runners on second and third to break a 6-6 tie.

Cardinals 9, Phillies 5: Andres Galarraga hit a two-run, tie-breaking double and Bernard Gilkey had a three-run homer in a six-run eighth to lead St. Louis past visiting Philadelphia.

The Phillies led 4-1 after Wes Chamberlain's three-run homer in

the sixth, but could not hold it.

Giants 7, Padres 1: In San Diego, San Francisco's John Burkett gave

homer of the season in the first inning when he sent the first pitch six rows deep into the second deck in left-center field with two outs.

Dodgers 7, Astros 2: Ramon Martinez won consecutive starts for the first time all season, and doubles by Henry Rodriguez and Jose Offerman keyed a five-run second inning that carried Los Angeles past visiting Houston.

A's Carve Out a Piece of the Lead

The Associated Press

The Oakland Athletics are right where they want to be.

They moved into a tie for first place in the American League West on Tuesday night with a 9-0 victory in Texas while Minnesota was being routed, 19-11, at Chicago. But manager Tony LaRussa said the Athletics' recent performance is even more important than pulling even with the Twins.

"This puts us 20 games over .500; that's more

important than being tied for first," LaRussa said.

Dave Stewart allowed two hits in six innings for his fifth straight victory but his first in 41 days. Stewart spent 24 days on the disabled list with elbow problems before being activated on July 24.

Carney Lansford and Terry Steinbach each had three RBIs as Oakland won its third straight game.

White Sox 19, Twins 11: George Bell had a two-run homer and five RBIs and the White Sox scored nine runs in the first inning to rout Minnesota in Chicago.

Robin Ventura and Steve Sax keyed the big inning with two-run doubles. Esteban Beltré hit his first major league homer in the second inning and Carlton Fisk hit his 374th in the fourth.

Orioles 6, Tigers 3: Rick Sutcliffe earned his 150th victory on his seventh try as the Orioles won their fifth straight and improved to 6-0 against Detroit in Baltimore.

AMERICAN LEAGUE

The Oakland Athletics are right where they want to be.

They moved into a tie for first place in the American League West on Tuesday night with a 9-0 victory in Texas while Minnesota was being routed, 19-11, at Chicago. But manager Tony LaRussa said the Athletics' recent performance is even more important than pulling even with the Twins.

"This puts us 20 games over .500; that's more

Sutcliffe, 0-5 with a 6.75 ERA in six starts since his last victory on June 30, allowed three runs and six hits in 7½ innings.

Red Sox 9, Blue Jays 4: Wade Boggs, Tom Brunansky and Mo Vaughn homered as Boston used a rare power surge to beat Toronto for the second consecutive night at Fenway Park, cutting the Blue Jays' AL East lead over Baltimore to 2½ games.

Yankees 4, Indians 3: Roberto Kelly hit a two-run homer and Curt Young again pitched well as the host Yankees stopped a four-game losing streak.

Brewers 5, Mariners 2: Chris Bosio allowed one run and five hits in seven innings for his third straight victory as host Milwaukee snapped a three-game losing streak.

Angels 5, Royals 4: Angels 1: David Howard hit a three-run inside-the-park homer and the Royals broke a nine-game losing streak against California by winning the nightcap in Kansas City.

Howard put the game away with his two-out homer in the seventh, a ball that left fielder Chad Curtis appeared to lose in the lights. In the first game, Gary DiSarcina had three hits and a career-best four RBIs.

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SPORTS

By Whatever Name, The Rivalry's the Same

By Gerald Eskenazi
New York Times Service

BARCELONA—Every day, officials and coaches of the former Soviet Union meet with the athletes to pump them up.

"We say they are representing the Unified Team, and we want them to demonstrate we are still a power," said Nikolai Semine, the interpreter for the head of the team's Olympic mission, Nikolai Ruskov.

To Americans, the former Soviets have kept their identity. They met on the fields (and pool) of friendly strife three times Wednesday, athletes who were called Cold Warriors once upon a time.

Their political differences led to the U.S. boycott of the 1980 Games in Moscow. The Soviet Union retaliated by refusing to participate in the 1984 Games in Los Angeles.

Medal counts were summoned up as symbols of one system's superiority over the other.

Now, there isn't even a nation called the Soviet Union. Instead, its Olympians are known — euphemistically, it turns out — as the Unified Team.

By whatever name, they played the United States in water polo (winning, 8-5), women's basketball (a startling 79-73 victory) and men's volleyball.

"We never had a Cold War in sports. There is no Cold war in water polo," contended Coach Boris Popov of the water polo team. One of his players, Sergei Naoumov, translated for him.

Popov was feeling pretty good on Wednesday afternoon, after the Unified Team's 8-5 victory. He was expansive in talking about his sport's future back home and about relations with the United States.

The Americans and the Soviet team were great water polo rivals — the U.S. capturing the silver in Seoul and the Soviet's bronze in 1988, and the Soviets taking the gold in 1972 while the United States finished third. They did not meet in 1980 and '84, and did not win medals in '76.

"The Americans did not seem excited," Popov said charitably of

their performance. "I didn't see it in their eyes."

Still, the United States remains in contention in the round-robin tournament.

"I never looked at it as a nationalistic battle," said the American goalkeeper, Craig Wilson, who also faced them when they were known as the Soviets.

"I look at how I can beat them rather than seeing a flag draped across their back."

Naoumov expressed dismay for the future of his sport at home. Like virtually every other member of the team, he is Russian. There are one or two Ukrainians.

"We don't have a good swimming facility," the athlete said of Russia.

His coach added, "There is no national support any more. I don't know how we will do in the future."

Whatever the future is, it appears there still is something special about a Soviet or Unified Team-United States meeting.

At the buzzer of the women's basketball game, Scottie Pippen and Patrick Ewing, who had cheered on the Americans, had stunned expressions.

And at the water polo site, the 80 or so fans of the Unified Team banged their feet, called out their heroes' names, clapped their hands as loudly as — well, as loudly as Americans traditionally root.

When an American water poloist did well, meanwhile, their 80 or so fans cheered, waved ubiquitous Stars and Stripes, and generally had fun.

"The U.S.A. is still Soviet rival No. 1," said Semine. "It's no longer the Soviet Union, but we have two big teams at the Olympics — the Unified and the American."

He said the "psychology" of competition was different now.

"There is no longer the Cold War. Americans bear more about the Soviets — I mean Russia — I don't know what to call it. And we know more about the Americans. But this is only the beginning."

Deng Yaping, stifling a comeback by her doubles partner, Qiao Hong, to win the women's table tennis title and give China its 16th gold medal of the Games. Deng, the world champion, had won the women's doubles title with Qiao. Hyun Jung Hwa of South Korea and Li Ban hui of North Korea won bronze medals.



A Day at the Fights And Anything Goes

By Tony Kornheiser
Washington Post Service

BARCELONA—The boxing ring is my favorite Olympic venue. On any given day there will be more gothic stories, more loopy characters and more bizarre scenes there than anywhere else in the Games. At what other sport would the athletes deliberately miss the spit sink and land one on the ringside judges?

You want stories? Montell Griffin has a heartbreaker. Here's a guy who is 5 feet, 7 inches (170 centimeters) and all heart, a symbol of perseverance to everyone on the U.S. boxing team. And Tuesday night, by virtue of a Kaffkasque combination of events, he lost to Torsten May, the German world champion light heavyweight, and in so doing was denied a medal.

Griffin gave away 10 inches in height and reach, and still was in position to win the fight late in the third round. May, who is as stationary as the Tower of London, fought like the printed circuits that controlled his movement had been snipped. I've seen more action from TV test patterns.

After a couple of rounds spent contemplating how to best attack the German Gulliver, Griffin burrowed inside and opened up a nasty cut over May's right eye with a popping jab. As the blood spurted, the referee, Osvaldo Bisbal, halted the fight and brought May to the ringside doctor. A cut of this type in an amateur fight almost always ends the fight. But the doctor — who, intriguingly, is from Cuba, the well-known boxing arch rival of the United States — allowed the fight to continue.

As the cut over May's eye recommenced to leak profusely, the blood coating his face like a child's fingerpainting, Griffin continued his aggressive fighting, hoping the referee would either call in the doctor again, or stop the fight himself. Instead, the ref cautioned Griffin for the second time about ducking his head too low in an attempt to avoid May's punches. And when Bisbal called the same offense for a third time, with about one minute left in the fight, he penalized Griffin by adding three points to May's score. Griffin was flabbergasted. "This can't be real," he said. Without the bonus points, May would have lost the fight, 4-3. With them, he won, 6-4.

"My fighter's 5 feet 7," said the U.S. coach, Joe Byrd, throwing up his hands. "He's going into the ring with a low head!"

YOU WANT loopy characters? In an afternoon bout between an Algerian and a Dominican, somebody from the Dominican Republic stood in the stands, waving a large Dominican Republic flag and urgently shouting out in Spanish, "Kill him! Kill him!" Not the most benign cheer perhaps, but it'll get your attention in the subway.

The man kept this up the entire round, and was livid with anger when the scoring showed the Dominican fighter behind, 4-0. In the next round, the man got even louder. He put on a pair of huge padded gloves and banged out a steady whomp-whomp-whomp. Again, he called for his countryman to "Kill him!" and added a Spanish phrase imploring him to do so quickly.

But when the score was flashed after the second round, and the Dominican was behind, 8-1, the man folded the flag, put away the gloves and sat silently, giving up on the boxer like a bad stock.

The oddest cheers I heard came from a few British boxers who were rooting on their light heavyweight, Stephen Wilson. You have no idea how silly it sounds at a boxing match to hear grown men yell out, "Come on, Stevie boy." "Watch the head, lad" and "Pump the knees and give 'im the old one-two, Stevie boy." Any second I expected them to burst into the opening song from "Brigadoon."

Regrettably, Stevie boy was bloody thrashed, 13-0, getting the big zed as it were. Quite.

Gold Diggers of 1992: The Chinese Are Tuning In

By Sheryl WuDunn
Washington Post Service

BEIJING — If bicyclists are swerving even more than usual these days, if factory workers are nodding at the assembly lines, if government officials are excusing themselves from evening banquets, it has less to do with the sultry weather than with collective pride at the leaps and plunges of a few pint-size teenagers far away.

Many Chinese, who can barely tell the shot put from the discus, have been transfixed by the Olympics. Because of the seven-hour time difference with Barcelona, the live television coverage lasts well into the night, but many are still alternately delighted and impatient to watch the triumphs of their athletes.

"It's about time we picked up some gold," said a shopkeeper in his 20s. "With 1.1 billion people, we should be winning all the gold. Hey, did you see Li Xiaoshuang? Stunning. Absolutely beautiful."

Li Xiaoshuang, whose name translates as "Little Twin," won a gold medal in the floor exercise in men's gymnastics. His twin brother, Li Dasuahuang, or "Big Twin," also competed but did not win a medal.

China has done much better than anybody expected in the Olympics, excelling in diving, swimming and gymnastics. It won only five gold medals in the 1988 Olympics in Seoul, but as of Tuesday it had already won 15 in Barcelona, including three of the four in diving.

In a nation that has been deeply divided politically in the last few years, the Olympics have provided a rare occasion when everyone from Communist Party bosses to student dissidents can cheer China's performers. The nation's newest heartthrobs include Lu Li, the bright-eyed 15-year-old who scored a perfect 10 as she won the gold medal for uneven bars in gymnastic competition, and Fu Mingxia, the 13-year-old sensation who dominated in women's platform diving.

The Asian Games, held here in the autumn of 1990, annoyed many people who were forced to contribute money and labor for the preparations. But whatever they think of their government, many Chinese bristled at the way American journalists were reported to have treated the swimmer Qian Hong after she won the gold medal in the women's 100-meter butterfly. When

Qian, 21, was asked what her mother did, she replied, "Environmental sanitation."

As reported in the Chinese press, the American reporter pressed Qian with another question: "Does that mean she collects garbage?" The room filled with raucous laughter and Qian ended up crying.

"Those American reporters really have no manners," the report said, a statement that was echoed in many conversations with Chinese about the Olympics.

Allegations that Chinese athletes may be using steroids — a charge that is not backed by any clear evidence and that the government denies — also have caused an uproar.

Chinese appear to be divided on the issue, with some convinced their athletes have learned from East European coaches how to take steroids. Others say the athletes probably take Chinese herbal medicines to improve their performance.

When Wu Dan, a women's volleyball player, was banned after testing positive for strychnine, the Xinhua news agency said she had inadvertently absorbed the strychnine in a Chinese medicine after becoming ill.

Wu's case, the first in Barcelona after 1,080 tests, was a clear embarrassment for

the government. Official television and radio news programs did not report it.

But, otherwise, the government has given the Games extensive publicity. For the last week, national television has broadcast about 19 hours a day of Olympic coverage.

To encourage athletes, the National Sports Commission will give about \$14,000 to each winner of a gold medal, the China Youth Daily reported last week. It added that companies, factories and other sponsors have made contributions so that each gold medal winner could bring in about \$37,000, or 95 times the annual salary of an average factory worker.

One company, Jianliban, which makes a sports drink, said it would give a gold medal worth about \$6,500, to each gold medalist. It had prepared 30 cans of gold, partly in expectation that the women's volleyball team would win a gold medal, but it lost to Brazil.

The government is hoping that its performance will enhance its chances to win the right to be host to the Summer Games in 2000. As a Chinese sports official said cautiously: "We hope the achievements of our athletes in Barcelona will leave a very deep impression on the decision makers."

BOOKS

THE REPORTER WHO WOULD BE KING: A Biography of Richard Harding Davis

By Arthur Lubow. 438 pages. \$25. Scribner's, 866 Third Avenue, New York, New York 10022.

Reviewed by Jonathan Yardley

SURELY it is revealing that at the end of Arthur Lubow's careful, scrupulous, exceedingly long biography, Richard Harding Davis is almost as much an enigma as he was at its outset. A man who consciously cultivated his own image, who in his life and in his work blurred the line between fact and fiction beyond the point of differentiation, Davis proves a riddle that neither Lubow nor the reader can solve: a man whose words and his deeds we can know but whose inner self defies true understanding.

But wait, you say: Richard Harding Davis? The question is understandable. Lubow puts it this way: "To be famous virtually all one's adult life and forgotten promptly at death, this is celebrity in its purest form. Time, washing away the merely fashionable, has erased all impressions of Richard Harding Davis."

In his day, which stretched from his arrival at the New York Evening Sun in 1889 to his death in 1915, Davis was famous to a degree beyond the imaginings of even the most television-besotted jour-

BRIDGE

by Alan Truscott

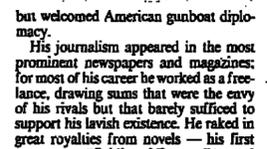
THE Pan-American Mixed Pair title was won by Ruth Stober and Bob Goldman two months ago. On the last deal of the event, shown in the diagram, Stober took an optimistic shot at game with the South cards and emerged with a top score.

West led the club queen against four hearts and South faced an uphill task with a bunch of potential losers. She took the club ace, crossed to the king and ruffed a club, hoping to establish that suit. She then cashed the ace and king of hearts, breathing a sigh of relief when the trumps divided evenly.

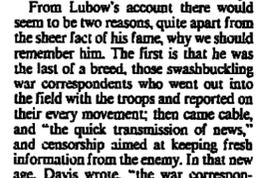
A good play at this point would have been to play a fourth club. Instead South led a spade to the king, guided by East's discard of the spade six on the third round of club, and exited with a spade.

East took two spade tricks and then had to lead a diamond. Since East had already produced eight high-card points in the major suits, and had neither opened the bidding nor intervened after the raise to two hearts, the diamond ace was marked with West. South therefore played low and made her game when West could not produce the queen.

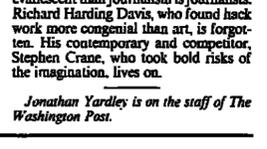
PEANUTS



BEETLE BAILEY



CALVIN AND HOBBES



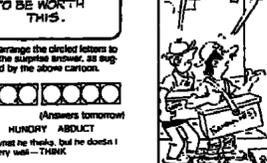
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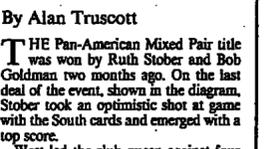
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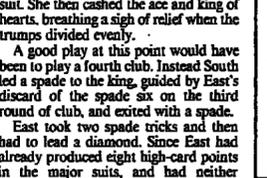
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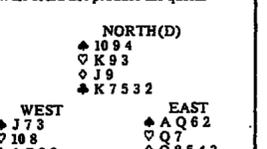
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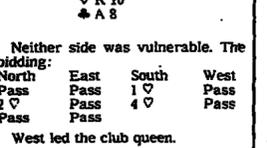
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DENNIS THE MENACE



THE REPORTER WHO WOULD BE KING

Richard Harding Davis was America's beau ideal, an impossibly handsome, upright, successful man whom other men envied and women adored.

It's not just that Davis was handsome, or that he was an intrepid journalist who covered all the major wars of his day, or that he traveled to remote and mysterious places, or that he wrote best-selling novels and hit plays, or that he could be found in the pressbox at the biggest football games, or that he lived amid opulence and glamour; it's that he was simultaneously all of these things.

His mother was a writer, his father an editor. He grew up in "enveloping maternal love," which often does a boy more harm than good; he saved passions for his mother that he denied to other women, with the result that he spent much of his life "playing at love." He was subject to black moods; Lubow believes these to have been "the result not of overwork or overexcitement, but of internalized, unexpressed anger" that his predilection for "bluish-white recitatives" caused him to suppress behind the high-collared shirts and dashing jackets he routinely affected.

"Affected" is the word. Though he seems to have been amiable and congenial, he was a wholly self-created man. As a boy he had been captivated by romantic fiction and he sought to live as a character from a romantic novel. Though he was lionized as a paragon of bold youth, he was in fact no modernist; he was "always on the side of stability and order," deplored British imperialism

but welcomed American gunboat diplomacy.

His journalism appeared in the most prominent newspapers and magazines; for most of his career he worked as a freelance, drawing sums that were the envy of his rivals but that barely sufficed to support his lavish existence. He raked in great royalties from novels — his first success was "Soldier of Fortune" — and plays, none of which is read or staged any more; scarcely a single line of his writing has survived to give him even the most tenuous claim on the national memory.

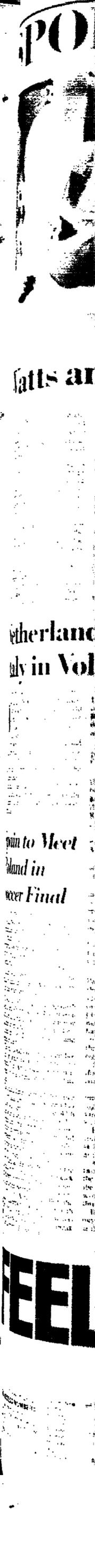
From Lubow's account there would seem to be two reasons, quite apart from the sheer fact of his fame, why we should remember him. The first is that he was the last of a breed, those swashbuckling war correspondents who went out into the field with the troops and reported on their every movement; then came cable, and "the quick transmission of news," and censorship aimed at keeping fresh information from the enemy. In that new age, Davis wrote, "the war correspondent received his death sentence."

The second is that his life stands as a useful corrective to journalistic hubris. It reminds us that the only thing more evanescent than journalism is journalism. Richard Harding Davis, who found back work more congenial than art, is forgotten. His contemporary and competitor, Stephen Crane, who took bold risks of the imagination, lives on.

Jonathan Yardley is on the staff of The Washington Post.

Neither side was vulnerable. The bidding: East South West North Pass 1 Pass Pass 2 Pass 4 Pass Pass

West led the club queen.



سكنا من الامم

SPORTS OLYMPICS



Ann Williams of Britain went down amid a forest of legs in a 1,500-meter heat and caused Maria Akraika of Sweden, center, and Fabia Trabaldo of Italy to also fall. Williams was disqualified after a protest by Trabaldo and Akraika.

Watts and Marsh Set Olympic Marks at 400 and 200 Meters

BARCELONA — Quincy Watts set his second Olympic record Wednesday in three nights while winning the men's 400 meters in 43.50 seconds, the second-fastest time in history.

In the semifinals of the men's 200, Watts' teammate, Mike Marsh set an Olympic record of 19.73 seconds, coming within one-hundredth of a second of the world record — even though he eased up in the final 10 meters.

Kenyan Williams Tamui and Niron Kiprotich went 1-2 in the men's 800, with Johnny Gray of the United States capturing the bronze medal.

Marie-José Pérec of France won the women's 400.

Sally Gunnell of Britain won the women's 400-meter hurdles. Sandra Farmer-Patrick won the silver

and her U.S. teammate, Janene Vickers, took the bronze in a photo finish.

Discus thrower Romas Ubartas, who won a silver medal for the Soviet Union four years ago at the Seoul Olympics, won a gold medal for Lithuania — its first of these Games.

Dave Johnson received a fourth chance in the shot put portion of the decathlon after an official had ruled he fouled on all three of his throws.

The official raised the red flag on each of Johnson's three throws to signify a foul, but was overruled by the meet referee on the third throw. The referee ordered that Johnson be given another throw.

But Johnson still was struggling, ending the day in ninth place with 4,154 points. Paul Meier of Germany led with 4,510 points after five events — 100 meters, long jump, shot put, high jump and 400 meters.

Michael Johnson, who had lost

at 200 meters only once in the past two years, finished sixth in his semifinal and failed to reach the final. He later said he was weak from a recent illness.

Johnson has flirted with the world record in the 200 for the last two years, but he seemed to run out of steam in the final 50 meters.

"In the back of my mind, I was very afraid the sickness had taken some of my strength," he said. "In the home stretch, I just didn't feel like Michael Johnson. It just wasn't there."

Watts took charge of the men's 400-meter race off the final turn and defeated defending Olympic champion Steve Lewis of the United States by about four meters.

Lewis took the silver medal in 44.21 seconds and Samson Kitur of Kenya won bronze in 44.24.

Watts, 22, had set an Olympic

record of 43.71 seconds in winning his semifinal heat on Monday. The only faster time in the 400 is 43.29 by Butch Reynolds in 1988.

Pérec held off defending Olympic champion Olga Bryzgina of the Unified Team to win the women's 400 meters in 48.83 seconds. Bryzgina took silver and Ximena Restrepo of Colombia, who attended the University of Nebraska, won bronze.

Tamui, a clerk in the Kenyan air force, won the men's 800 in 1 minute, 43.66 seconds, four-hundredths of a second ahead of Kiprotich, a Kenyan soldier. Gray led until the final turn, but — gritting his teeth and stumbling slightly — he was passed by the two Kenyans with 100 meters left.

Uhartas won the men's discus gold with a toss of 65.12 meters (213 feet, 8 inches). Jurgen Schult

Netherlands Upsets Italy in Volleyball

BARCELONA — The Netherlands shocked Italy, the world champion, on Wednesday in five sets to reach the Olympic men's volleyball semifinals.

There was no upset in the second quarterfinal. Cuba beat Spain, 16-14, 15-9, 15-6, and will contest one of Friday's semifinals against the Netherlands.

Brazil beat Japan, 15-12, 15-5, 15-12, and will meet the winner the United States-Unified Team quarterfinal.

The Dutch defeated the Italians, 15-9, 12-15, 9-15, 15-2, 17-16, overcoming the loss of setter Peter Blange, who went out at the end of the second set with a left ankle injury.

"Italy was our target, we prepared especially for Italy," said Coach Arie Seinger.

The Dutch, who finished fifth at the 1988 Games in Seoul, eliminated the team that had dominated the game in the last four years and won the 1990 World Championship. Ronald Zwaerver led the Dutch with 25 kills.

When Blange went out, his role was taken over by Seinger's son, Avital.

"I just wanted to hang in there and do the best I can," Avital Seinger said.

Italy was particularly outplayed in the fourth game, when it won only two points. The Italians recovered in the tiebreaker, saved three match points but finally fell to the big Dutch attack.

The Netherlands finished only fourth in its preliminary group, after losing to Brazil, Cuba and the Unified Team.

The Dutch will meet Cuba, the Pan American champion, again in the semifinals after the world silver medalist had an easy victory over Spain, Cuba, second in the preliminary group, made the match look effortless against the hapless Spaniards, who qualified only as hosts but then surprised their rivals by reaching the last eight.

Spain's success in progressing that far owed much to its Cuban coach, Gilberto Herrera.

"We are still missing some of the details, we are especially missing central attackers," Herrera said after Cuba's 16-14, 15-9, 15-6 victory.

Brazil, led by its 19-year-old star spiker Negrão, pierced Japan's skillful defense with its big hitting at the net.

After cruising through the first two sets, Brazil fell behind, 6-1, in the third. The Brazilians slowly cut the deficit until they leveled the score at 12-12 and won the next three points.

Brazil was beaten in the gold medal match by the United States at the 1984 Games in Los Angeles. (AP, Reuters)



Members of the Unified Team celebrating after they had upset the U.S. women's basketball team in the semifinals on Wednesday.

Unified Team Stuns U.S. Women, 79-73, In Basketball Semis

BARCELONA — With every advancement against its press, with every uncontested shot, with every passing second, it became all too clear Wednesday that the U.S. women's basketball team was not what it was cracked up to be. It was not in a league of its own.

"We hadn't been in a close game," said one of the players, Medina Dixon. "We questioned that. How would we act? How would we flow together?"

The answers brought joy to the players and coaches of the Unified Team, and tears for the Americans, who just two days before had stated their intention to be remembered as "a team of an era."

Now, after a stunning 79-73 defeat at the hands of the team that was formerly the Soviet Union, the United States would have no opportunity to defend the gold medal it won in 1984 and 1988. Its Olympic record of 15 straight victories broken along with its press, the United States would play Cuba on Friday afternoon for the bronze.

In the second semifinal, China had little trouble advancing, with a 68-35 rout of the Cubans.

Dixon, acknowledging the standard that this team of 11 professionals and one school-teaching mother had set, said, "I don't even think I'd carry it home."

In a year when the American men's game is being celebrated internationally like never before, to fall was the worst of all nightmares for the talented U.S. women.

The fans and media here had fallen in love with the U.S. point guard, 5-foot-4 inch (1.63-meter), 120-pound (54-kilogram) mother of one, Suzie McConnell. But unlike past Soviet teams, these Unified players were just as quick and perhaps more cunning than the Americans.

The Unified Team had three bigger versions of McConnell, in 5-9 Elena Chvaibovitch, 5-8 Irina Soumnikova and 5-9 Svetlana Zaboloueva.

Their intentions were to not merely break the press, but to attack it, to turn it against the United States. By the start of the second

Spain to Meet Poland in Soccer Final

VALENCIA, Spain — Abelardo Fernandez and Rafael Berges ended Spain's 12-year wait for an Olympic soccer medal on Wednesday by firing the host nation to a 2-0 semifinal victory over Ghana.

Spain will meet Poland in the final. Poland thrashed Australia, 6-1, in the other semifinal.

It was in 1920 that the Spanish won its only Olympic football medal and it is assured of at least gaining another silver after goals from Fernandez in the 25th minute and Berges in the 53d.

The only cloud on the golden horizon for Spain is a calf injury to forward José Amavisca, who was carried off on a stretcher after a late tackle.

The Ghana defense paid the price for its physical approach when Osei Kuffour was sent off in the 47th minute with a second yellow card.

Fernandez, the team's most experienced international player, slid in between two defenders to side-foot home a curling free-kick from the left by José Guardiola.

Tony Menenti denied Spain in the 35th minute by turning round a kick from Albert Ferrer and three minutes later when he parried a last-chance effort from Amavisca. But the Ghana goalkeeper was at fault with Berges's goal. He got down far too late and allowed the ball to sneak into the corner of the net.

Japan Wins Bronze in Baseball With 8-3 Triumph Over U.S.

L'HOSPITALET, Spain — Koichi Oshima got three hits and drove in four runs Wednesday, leading Japan to the Olympic bronze medal in baseball with an 8-3 triumph over the United States.

Oshima's three-run double in the sixth inning broke open a close game as Japan beat the United States for the second time in four days. Japan had a 7-1 victory over the Americans in the last preliminary match on Sunday.

The Japanese hammered U.S. pitching for 14 hits, including five doubles. Hiroki Kokubo scored twice and drove in two runs, and Yasunori Takami also had two RBIs.

Masanori Sugiyama, 2-0 in the tournament, picked up the victory in relief of starter Tomohito Ito. Sugiyama, who thwarted a U.S. scoring threat in the fifth, gave up just one hit over the final 4 1/2 innings. He walked two and struck out five, including the side in the ninth, as Japanese pitchers totaled 15 strikeouts.

Ron Villone, the U.S. starter who was 1-1 at the Olympics, struggled from the outset. He was helped out of a jam in the first by a line-drive double play, but couldn't record an out in the second as Japan scored four runs.

Shigeki Wakabayashi opened with a double down the left-field line and took third on a wild pitch. After Hirokazu Kojima walked, Kokubo laced one past third for an RBI double.

Ricky Greene relieved and gave up a two-run single to Takami, who went to third on a hit-and-run single by Hiroyuki Sakaguchi and scored on an Oshima single.

Jeff Aikre came in to pitch and avoided further damage by getting Akihiro Togo to line out and Shintaro Sato to hit into a double play.

The United States took advantage of a Japanese error to pull within 4-2 in the fourth. Jason Giambi and Jeffrey Hammonds stroked back-to-back doubles for one run. Michael Tucker walked and Kenzo Sugiyama relieved Ito.

Sugiyama proceeded to strike out Phil Nevin, with catcher Takami attempting to double up Tucker with a snap throw to first. But the throw skipped by first baseman Koji Tokunaga and into right field, as Hammonds scored all the way from second on the error.

The Americans added a run in the fifth but could have had more. Nomar Garciaparra led off with an infield single, stole second and scored on a one-out double by Calvin Murray. Giambi walked, chasing Sugiyama in favor of Sugiyama.

Another Endorsement For NBA at the Games

BARCELONA — The war of words between the U.S. Olympic Committee and its basketball team escalated when Boris Stankovic, the executive director of FIBA, defended the team and said its critics were "jealous of the attention" it has received at the Games.

In addition, a source close to the National Basketball Association said that its commissioner, David Stern, had been telephoned this week by the IOC's president, Juan Antonio Samaranch, and thanked for the league's participation. Stern, the source added, has also been assured by Dr. Harvey Schilling, the USOC's executive director, that the organization had no plans to return to the days of using college players in the Olympics.

Stankovic, in response to a remark by Leroy Walker, the nominee as the next U.S. committee president, that he was "not convinced yet" that the United States should have NBA players in the 1996 Games in Atlanta, said, "It is necessary to ask him if he will send another team that will not win the gold medal and how the people will feel then."

Stankovic has strongly advocated opening the Olympics to the NBA professionals.

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